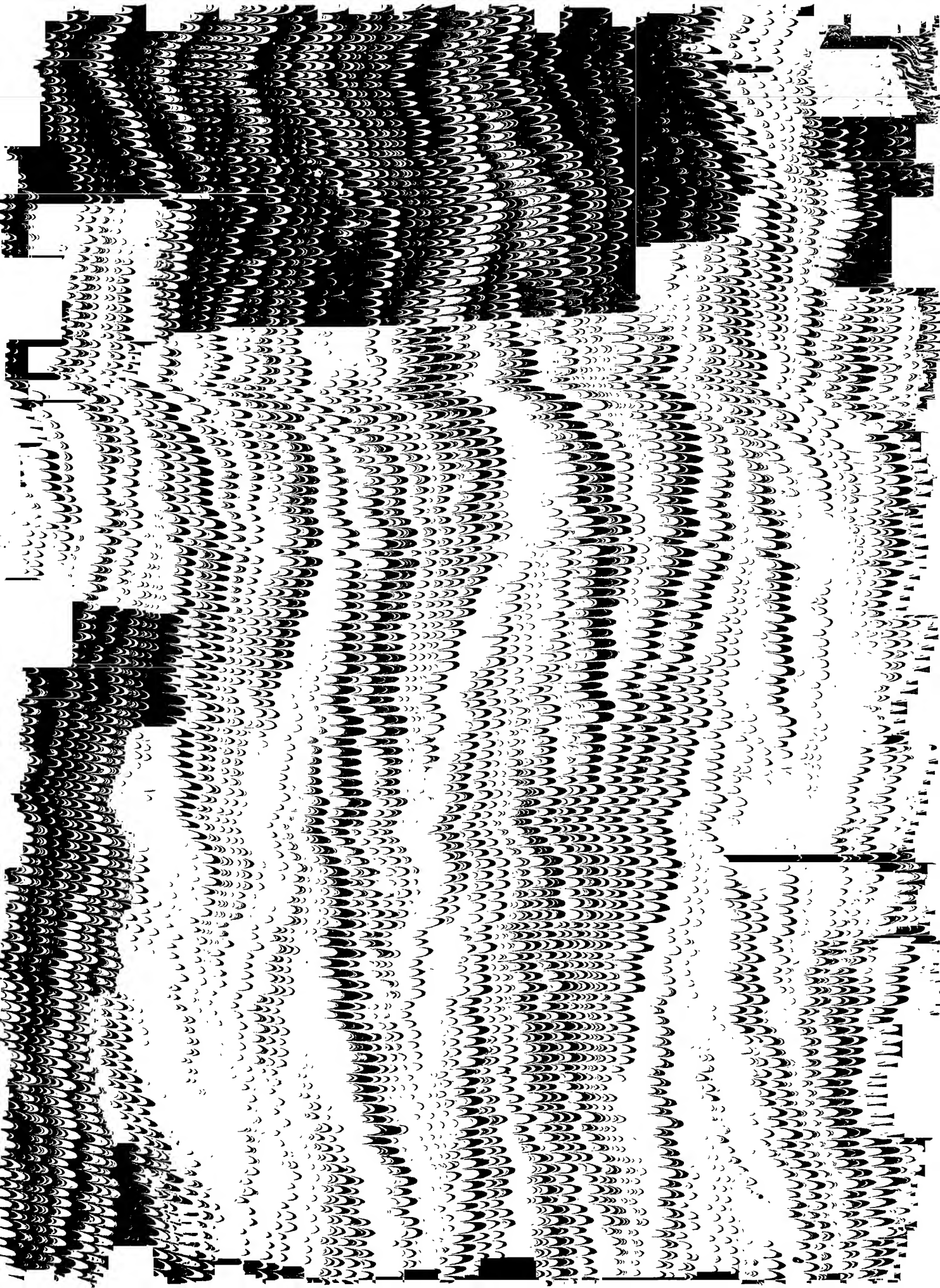


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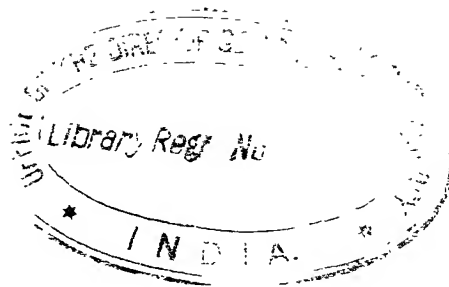
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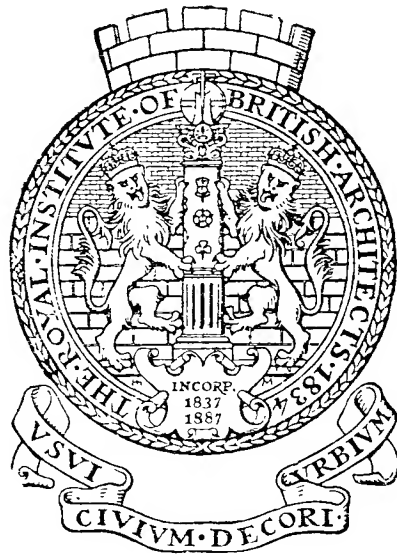


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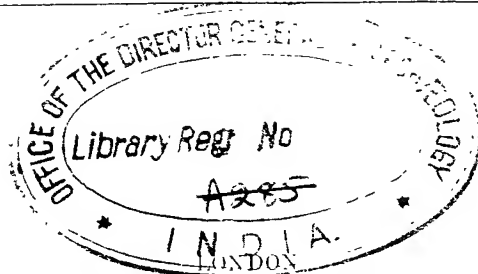


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## Eighty-sixth Session — 1919-20.

4th November 1919.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS. By the PRESIDENT, MR. JOHN W. SIMPSON.

*Membre Correspondant de l'Institut de France.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—In all the World's history, there has been never an epoch like that to which we are come. Four years of energy and skill have been devoted by the Nations to the work of mutual destruction: and now they see, revealed by the light of Peace, the precipice of ruin to which their struggles have brought them. Aghast at the imminent danger, they turn—still faint and bruised with fighting—to mend the neglected structure of their prosperity, to renew the arrested progress of their social welfare.

In these tremendous circumstances, I invite your attention to the functions of the Architect. Plan—born of the fertile union of Reflection, analysing the conditions of the problem, with Imagination, quick to perceive its true solution: Construction, daughter of Caution, testing the soundness of each audacious artifice. Such faculties, at once quickened and chastened by severe technical training, conduce—as I shall submit—to a type of intellect in the Designer of Buildings which is a National asset: an instrument to be employed to its very limit at this present time.

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What is an Architect?

There can be no better definition than that given by the Dictionary of the Académie Française: "the Artist who composes buildings, determines their proportions, distributions, and decorations, directs their execution, and controls the expenditure upon them."

First then, foremost, and above all, he is an Artist. And by the term Artist, I understand no more a Painter, or a Draughtsman, than I do an Actor, or—for that matter, a Hairdresser—but that which all who honestly practise those professions would wish to be: delighting in their work for its own sake, yet discontented with it because of perpetual endeavour to reach a higher perfection. Not that fitful dilettante who justifies to himself his idle hours with empty phrases—"a lack of inspiration," or the like—but a man with a life's work before him, and the time desperately inadequate in which to do it. A man of remorseless severity in the standard of his own attainment, inasmuch that he shall grudge no expenditure of time and pains to achieve the smallest improvement in his work. One in whose mouth the words "It will do," and "Near enough," are not found: nor will he tolerate them in the mouths of those who work with him.



With such a Temperament, Imagination, an eye trained to the appreciation of Form and Colour, and the rare Creative faculty, endowed with all attributes of the Artist—he is yet but an imperfect Architect. For to the Artist must be added the Technician, to make the Architect. Of what avail is his gift of Creation, if he have not Constructive Science that alone shall enable the off-spring of his vision to reach maturity?

And, what a very mountain range of obstacles now appears between our eager Artist and the Promised Land of his desire. Not seldom, indeed, his heart fails at the steep ascent, and either he turns aside into by-paths which he conceives easier or more direct—or, he becomes fascinated with the very ruggedness of his toil, and remains contentedly constructing, with never a regret for what lies beyond his vision.

The Artist, then, must train his unaccustomed feet to tread firmly the slippery planes of geometry: for he is to be able, you must remember, to delineate Things, not merely as they exist, but as they are to be. Geometer and—that he may calculate—Mathematician, he must still surmount and master the rocky intricacies of the Trades. Mason and Bricklayer shall he become, and Carpenter to boot. The workers in Metal must yield to him the secrets of their Crafts, nor shall he rest till he has explored the whole mystery of Material;—Rocks, and Trees, and the Sand which is by the sea-shore.

Something of an Engineer he will find himself nowadays, being called upon to deal with Steel as a familiar friend; recognising its great possibilities, and—its limitations. He is but a poor designer who shall set aside materials as “inartistic”; rather should he recognise it as his duty, by masterful handling, to imbue them with beauty.

The study of Hygiene is within his province; for he must be nicely studious in arranging all Sanitary matters, and that not merely as to their general disposal. Judging no detail of pipe, trap, joint, or fitting unworthy of attention, he must narrowly supervise each with the Authority which is born of Knowledge. Upon Climate, Aspect, Rain-fall, Sub-soils, and all matters pertaining to the Public Health, he will be required to advise: and to plan aright the Defences against those insidious, persistent foes of humanity, Sickness and Disease.

Armed, then, with this panoply of attainments, and the vigorous constitution proper for their exercise, yet another gift is needed for his full equipment. The very weight of his intellectual armour may be his disadvantage and undoing, if it be not supported by that solid sense of proportion—those powers of inductive and deductive reasoning—which go to make what is commonly called “business ability.”

And here we come upon our Architect in an aspect quite different from any in which we have hitherto viewed him. An aspect, too, which perhaps most of all differentiates him from his brethren who take the Arts for their trade.

For, consider his position who is entrusted with an important work of Architecture, and how his conditions vary from those of the Painter or the Sculptor. These last produce their work, agree terms of its purchase, and there’s an end to the transaction! A mere matter of interchange so far as finance is concerned.

But the Architect, from the moment the building Contract is signed, is invested with the discretion of an almost unfettered Trustee. Vast sums of money are at his disposition, and are disbursed by his direction. None can tell, till such time as the work is completed and the cost reckoned, whether or no he has wisely and honestly acquitted himself of his stewardship, and obtained full value for the moneys entrusted to him.

A Trustee, did I say? Nay, more; a very Judge. As the Employer lays down his gold, so the Builder bestows freely his work at the word of the Architect, neither doubting but that justice shall be done them. When I think of the unlimited trust and confidence which are placed in us day by day, year by year, by men of opposing interests, strangers moreover for the most part, who know us not at all in private life; when I think, too, that among both small and great, high and low, that trust and

that confidence are justified—I profess I am proud of my calling. Mistakes are made, no doubt, “to err is human”; I have known cases of unpardonable oversight—but (I speak of those who rightly bear the title) who ever heard of a dishonest Architect?

To prolong the list would weary you. I could speak of the necessary knowledge of Accounts; of some familiarity with the Law, as it affects the drawing of Contracts, the rights of dominant and servient owners of Easements, the complexities of Building Acts and such like mysteries; of the need that he should be able to express his views with clarity and terseness, whether in writing or in speech; of the Architect as the “Polite Letter Writer,” dealing daily with the correspondence of a Bishop.

You will say—I fear—that my sketch of the “Complete Architect” is but a fancy portrait, that so many accomplishments cannot crowd into the few years of a working life. My picture, it may be, is exactly true of none of us, as we are—I freely disclaim its likeness to the author—but it may stand for all of us—as we would be.

\* \* \*

Be this of the Workman as it may be. What of the Work?

It will not have escaped you that, although the quality of Artist stands foremost in the making of an Architect, I have described in greater detail his faculties of Construction and Administration. It is with intention that I have chosen for my discourse these less familiar aspects of our art. To cultured minds, the æsthetics of Architecture are a perennial interest, and, since buildings make appeal to the sense of beauty, the emotions they inspire must form the measure for their criticism. Yet it is seldom realised how much of the greatness of the art of Architecture is due to the severely practical nature of its medium, to the necessity of expressing the artist's Ideal in terms of cubic Reality. When the enthusiast speaks of it as “frozen music,” he is apt to forget that the freezing inspired, and is the very essence of, the music. For Architecture is, above all, Building; the calculated, right disposition of proportioned solids and voids—in other words, Plan and Construction; not the cornices, mouldings, and carvings which define the masses, add desired emphasis to light and shadow. To create it, no dexterous suggestive sketch suffices; no magic wand, nor lamp, nor potent incantation will raise it from the ground. Patient complex diagrams of geometrical projection, sown with myriad notes and figures, must show how bricks are placed in unseen foundations, and how joints of cunning fashion couple the roof-beams.

But, for all that I have dwelt upon the material, I would not be thought unmindful of the spiritual aspect of our calling. “Morality, in fact, is architectonic: and goodness, for human nature, is the queen over truth and beauty.” I quote from Addington Symonds. “Experience leads me,” he adds, “to think that there are numerous human beings in each nation who receive powerful and permanent tone from the impressions communicated to them by architecture.” Very great, therefore, is the importance of a prevailing standard of good design, of logical, comely compliance with our domestic and commercial needs.

I am not now thinking of great monuments. Placed in the hands of competent designers, the Government Housing Scheme may effect ethical results of more value to the nation than the satisfaction of its physical demands. The clerk and the artisan, on their way to the morning train, pass by rows of dwelling-places, ill-planned within, monotonously vulgar without. “One of these days,” thinks our friend, “I will have a house of my own,” and in his mind the house of his desire shapes itself, like to those he daily sees. What an Ideal! Yet how should it be otherwise? The only effective education of the public in architecture is the object lesson of good design.

All creative art must have a motive. Guadet, in his wonderful “Cours d'Architecture,” reveals the basic influence which governs our art, in an illuminating phrase. “The great Architect of a period,” says he, “is its social condition; the technician realises, but does not create, the aspirations of his time.” Yet, while it remains true that architecture reflects, and writes in stone, the history of its time, the legend is no mere transcript, but a conception whereby the fertilising suggestion is transmuted

vitalised, and perfected. Versailles owed its existence to the autocratic splendour of Louis XIV., but the minds that created it were those of Mansard, of Le Nôtre, and Le Brun.\*

The pageant of Versailles has passed into the Shades : there breathes no wind of life among the phantoms of that splendid Court ; alone, the artists' work remains, immortal. To us—as it did to them—inspiration must come from the living world, from them that are nigh to us, from the resistless, limitless future. For good or ill, the old Order is well-nigh gone : the short retrospect of our own lives tells of a mighty social change, and in the fruition of the new State, Architecture must fulfil its glorious part. " Did you, O friend," said Whitman, " suppose Democracy was only for elections, for politics, or for a party name ? " and, " To the men and women of a country, its æsthetics furnish materials and suggestions of personality, and enforce them in a thousand effective ways."

Admitting—as we must—the value of Art to Democracy, its intimate connection with the moral welfare of a people, we cannot but applaud the attitude of H.M. Government with regard to the national Housing Scheme. Despite political reasons for erecting houses with headlong hurry, despite attack by those without knowledge of the prodigious work involved in the preparation of even a moderate-sized scheme (and many are on a scale never before conceived in this or any other country), the Department charged with its administration has steadfastly insisted on standards of sound design and construction. Both the Prime Minister and Dr. Addison (who I regret cannot be with us to-night) have made clear their determination that the land shall not be covered with the abominations of the old-time speculator. Their reward shall be an England of finer instincts, richer for a noble pleasure. Architects—to the surprise of many—are now officially recognised as those most properly fitted to design houses, to plan the lay-out and extension of our cities and towns. We are grateful for that recognition ; I do not hesitate to say we are giving of our very best in return.

To those impatient for results, let me say that Economy in building is effected, not by the omission of ornamental details—and, indeed, it is but a poor design which needs them—but, by minute study of the Plan, and Construction, upon whose importance I have already insisted. " Plan " means far more than the arrangement of rooms ; it comprises the scrutiny of every foot of ground, its contours and subsoil, whereby foundation work is saved ; it covers the economical disposition and grading of roads, the aspect of each house-site, the water-supply, lighting, drainage, and—in many cases—reasoned investigation of the general and local social problems incident to the formation of a township. " Construction," too, may be but a small thing, in—for example—a cottage roof ; but to perfect it, so that wood, slate, lead, and labour may be reduced in each of several hundred cottages, will perhaps need days of work and experiment. And the time lost in preliminary study is regained many fold in the end. To produce in bulk such comparatively simple things as shells needed months of preparation, but, when organisation was complete, they poured forth like water from a pierced dam. So, houses, far more complex constructions than shells, will presently arise as by enchantment : the process has already begun.

Like Religion, Architecture, if it is to profit a nation, must be part of its daily life. It is in Plan that lies the true economy—prevention of waste. Waste of time and energy, wandering about the tortuous passages of tube stations, where lifts are planned remote from trains, and fatuous stairs intervene between them and the platforms. Waste of property, in the squalid hinder-parts of main-line stations, untidy sprawling areas dotted with lamentable sheds, and linked by bridges whose building has darkened and desolated streets of houses : waste which defiles and depresses whole communities. I mention " backs," because Architecture is matter not only, as is sometimes thought, for fronts, but equally for backs and sides ; for all, in short, that connotes orderly, cleanly life, and the beauty of efficiency.

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\* " On ne peut pas, Sire, employer trop d'étude pour concevoir quelque dessin qui réponde à la grandeur de vos actions. Comme elles ont surpassé tout ce qui s'est fait dans les autres temps, il faudroit que leurs monumens fussent aussi au-dessus de tous ceux de l'antiquité "—*François Blondel*.

My predecessor in this Chair has addressed you in time of War ; to me, more fortunate, it is given to take up his arduous duties freed from the obsession of those dreadful days. In opening our first Session since the Declaration of Peace, I welcome and congratulate those members who have served their Country and returned in safety. If I do not at this moment dwell upon our losses, it is not that we are unmindful ; we do not forget the gallant comrades who once sat with us. The Royal Institute has had its full share of bitterness.

War, like Architecture, is an Art, and is practised " according to plan." Its principles demand the same insistence on a leading motive, the same subordination of the part to the whole ; and there is the hazard variant from which skill may make, or folly mar, success. The commander, like the architect, must work within the limitations of his Budget, though his expenditure is counted not, alas, in terms of his employer's money, but of his men's lives ! Marshal Foch, indeed, pushes the parallel still closer. " The development of the art of war is like that of the art of architecture. The materials you use for your buildings may change ; they may be wood, stone, steel. But the static principles on which your house must be built are permanent."

Those who know me will not misunderstand : will not think me less enthusiastic for Art, that I have dwelt almost wholly to-night upon Plan and Construction. Assuredly, I yield to none in my reverence for the sublime qualities of Painting, Music, Sculpture. But, among the fine arts, Architecture is unique in that it alone subserves utility. By reason of its very limitations—the intimacy of its relation to the needs of humanity, its incessant confrontation with cosmic fact, and the rigorous severity of its principles—its votaries are compelled to understand widely, to see quickly and well, to be eclectic and tolerant while holding unsullied their own artistic faith. It is more particularly upon these grounds that I have ventured to assert the value of our profession to the State.

It is not among those callings which bestow great wealth on those who practise it. Few Architects retire upon their earnings ; fewer still leave riches at their death. Yet no art bestows greater fortune of pleasure upon those who give themselves wholly to its service ; and what can money give besides ?

To us, Architects, the immortal words which Carlyle puts in the mouth of Teufelsdröckh yield their fullest meaning. " Not what I Have," said he, " but what I Do is my Kingdom."

J. W. S.

## VOTE OF THANKS.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR (MR. JOHN W. DAVIS).—A layman who finds himself suddenly confronting this audience of distinguished architects and artists may properly be at some pains to justify the presumption of his presence in such surroundings. I should be entirely at a loss for such justification, if it were not for a quotation which came to me the other day from one who has written most sympathetically on the subject of architecture, and who is, I believe, accounted no small authority in the craft. May I read you just a line in my own defence ? " Every man has, at some time of his life, a personal interest in architecture. He has an influence on the design of some public building"—more's the pity—that is my own parenthesis (laughter)—" or he has to buy, or build, or alter his own house. It signifies less whether a knowledge of other arts be general or not. Men may live without buying pictures or statues, but in architecture all must, in some way, commit themselves. They must do mischief or waste their money if they do not know how to turn it to account. Churches and shops and warehouses and cottages,

the small row and place, and terrace houses must be built and lived in—however joyless and inconvenient—(laughter)—and it is assuredly intended that all of us should have knowledge, and act upon our own knowledge in matters with which we are daily concerned"—and now comes the sting of it—" and not be left to the caprice of architects, or the mercy of contractors " (laughter.) The sting of that quotation from John Ruskin, like the sting of the wasp, must be sought in its latter end.

If the layman chances to be both layman and lawyer, he may comfort himself, I think, by some of the remarks of your President, which seem to draw, more or less, a parallel between your profession and his own. I should like to think that the definition which your President has given of the artist is applicable not only to the members of the architectural profession, but to the members of the legal profession as well. I am not sure that I can quote it, Mr. President : a man who loves his work and yet is discontented because of his desire for a higher perfection than he has been able to attain. And such is he—to

pervert Wordsworth's line—whom every man in arms, with the tools of his profession in his hands, might wish to be. (Applause.) I find a parallel also in the long catalogue of qualifications which an architect must possess: artist, technician, mathematician, bricklayer, artisan, engineer, hygienist, business man, letter-writer, lawyer. (Laughter.) We lawyers are fond of saying that we must know a little bit about every man's business, and if the architect must be a lawyer, there come to most of us times when the lawyer must wish to be an architect. (Laughter.) And still another similarity. I now learn—somewhat contrary to what I had previously supposed to be the case—that few architects retire upon their earnings, or leave large fortunes at their death. But in that respect, at least, both professions are alike, for they can join, with full assurance, in the Psalmist's prayer: "Give me neither poverty, nor riches," being almost equally insured against both. (Laughter.)

I should hesitate, Mr. President, to add anything to the catalogue of achievements which you have laid down as necessary for those who follow with success the architectural profession. There are, however, three others one might add, reasons for which are given in the body of your address. For I must believe that architects are something more than adherents of all the trades and professions you have named. They are—and this you have pointed out—they are the world's truest historians. (Hear, hear.) It is they who write the imperishable records by which one civilisation and one age gives its message to those who are to follow it. (Applause.) What we know to-day of the great civilisations which have come and gone—of Nineveh, of Babylon and Egypt, even of Greece and of Rome—is largely what the architects have written on the stones for our reading. (Applause.) Much that we know on the other side of the Atlantic of those mysterious people who lived and flourished and had reached rather an advanced stage of civilisation—the Aztecs and the Incas—is to be found in what the architects laid down for our inspection. And so the architect who builds to-day builds not merely that he may satisfy the taste, the fancy, the comfort or the convenience of his fellow-men for the moment, but to hand down to posterity the tale of the sort of men who lived and laboured in his day. (Applause.) I suggest for your consideration also that the architect is not only an historian—he is very truly a statesman, to an extent larger, I think, than any of us conceive. Not only the daily custom and habit of men, but their mental conceptions, their ideals, their ambitions, their plans, their purposes are dictated by their physical surroundings. Your artisan and clerk who goes to and fro from his work past lines of monotonous dwellings, to which you, Sir, have chosen to allude, must carry in his heart some of the monotony which the surroundings through which he passes impress upon him. (Hear, hear.) And those who pass to and fro in the presence of majestic structures, who see the power and permanence of their

Government represented by the great buildings it inhabits, and whose minds are turned to thoughts of beauty by vistas of lofty columns, will carry into their individual action something of the ideals which those buildings have put into their minds. (Applause.) It was not for nothing that the Greeks appreciated this, as perhaps no other people have ever done, and contrived that at the hour of birth—indeed, before the hour of birth—the budding life should be surrounded by shapes of art and beauty which might flower in the subsequent life of their nation. (Applause.) And then I suggest that the architect is not only historian and statesman, but also diplomat: for he speaks the universal language, a tongue that needs no interpreter, no grammar, and no dictionary, but by which the people of one country may speak across the intervening spaces to another, and tell them of the life which they enjoy. It would be, Mr. President, to gild the lily, or refine the gold, to add anything more to the lofty address which has been delivered to us, so instinct with pride in your great profession, so inspiring in its appeal to the highest ideals.

I cannot pretend, sir, to bear to-night any formal commission from the architects of America. I am here by your courtesy rather than by their command, but I am sure that they would not wish me to conclude without a message of good-will and fraternal greetings for their brethren oversea. They will read with appreciative sympathy the address to which we have listened: and it is as much on their behalf as on behalf of those here present that I ask leave to propose a vote of thanks to the President for the address with which he has honoured us.

SIR ASTON WEBB, K.C.V.O., C.B. (President of the Royal Academy). I have the pleasure to second the vote of thanks to our President for what the Ambassador has called his lofty address. I would like, Sir, to congratulate you on holding the position which we are all pleased to see you in (applause), and one in which I am sure you will acquit yourself well. It is a tradition of this Institute for members to support the President to the full measure of their abilities: we intend to do that with you, Sir, and any little help that we can give will be always at your disposal. We are not unmindful of your past work. We remember the Town-planning Conference which you organised so successfully: we know that your name is known in France almost as well as it is here: and you have already placed us under an obligation by obtaining so many distinguished guests to grace our meeting to-day, including the Ambassador of the United States. I need not say how delighted and how proud we are to have his Excellency here to-night. (Applause.) It is not the first time that we have been so honoured. I remember when we gave the Gold Medal to a dear friend of mine, Charles Follen McKim—one of the greatest architects, in my humble opinion, of recent times—when we presented the gold medal to him, that delightful person Mr. Choate came; and Mr. White, then secretary of the Embassy—since, I

think, an ambassador himself—was also present. When the ceremony was over Mr. White handed to McKim a telegram of congratulation from America which had just arrived : and McKim at once scribbled on a piece of paper the reply : " Many thanks. I shall still wear the same hat." (Laughter.) That really expressed his character, he was an entirely modest man.

Before going further, may I, on behalf of this meeting, express to the Ambassador our great regret at the illness of the President of the United States. (Applause.) Mr. Wilson has become one of ourselves. We have watched him all through these difficult negotiations, and seen how he is experiencing the same difficulties when he gets home as our Ministers have experienced here. We greatly regret that, just at the time when his labours seemed to be coming to an end, he should be stricken with illness. If your Excellency would convey those expressions of regret for us, you would confer a great obligation on this Institute. [Mr. Davis : I shall be very happy to do so, Sir.] I think we must all agree that we have watched with surprise the wonderful advance in architecture on the other side of the Atlantic made in even so short a time as since Mr. Choate was Ambassador here. At one time we used to keep our weather-eye open mainly on France to see what was being done there in architecture. Fortunately we have two eyes, and certainly our other eye is now very keenly fixed upon what is being done in America. (Hear, hear.) We are delighted with what we see, with the seriousness of their work and the way in which they meet problems that have never had to be met before. I had some hopes that another friend of mine, and a very distinguished architect, Mr. Cass Gilbert, might have been here to-night. He was to have come over in July, then he hoped to come in August, and then he said it would not be until October. I had hoped that at any rate he would come in November, but still he does not come. Early in the war, long before America came in, one little thing which touched me very much was that he sent me a very substantial cheque to be distributed amongst any architects I knew of who were in want of a little help owing to the War. (Applause.) He also sent me, too, views of some of the works that he was carrying out. One was the Treasury buildings, at Washington, a strictly academic building, founded on traditions which we all attempt to follow. But also he sent drawings of buildings erected in New York for war purposes, such as we have required here ; but they appeared to me to be worked out not only in a most marvellously complete but also in a most artistic fashion. They were huge factories for the preparation and distribution of war material. Railway trains ran under the buildings to pick up the shells, which were then run out on to the docks, where the shells were weighed, and finally conveyed on board ship. The whole was worked out as one complete operation, and you saw at once the idea of a great man working at a new problem. That is one of the things in America which interests us so much.

We hope England, with its Dominions, and America will always be friends (applause) ; their aims are identical ; their language is the same ; their difficulties, even their strikes, are so much alike. Yet there are differences which form the charm of our communication with another country like America. I think it was Jean Ingelow who said :—

" It is not likeness only charms the sense ;  
It is not difference only sets the mind aglow ;  
It is the likeness in the difference,  
Perpetual music spoken in the snow."

I have not time to say many words on your admirable address, but I would like to congratulate you once more on what you have said, and especially that it has fallen to your lot to enter upon these duties at a time of peace. I am glad that you reminded us of the work that our men have done in the war. Architects answered splendidly to the call. There was not a man left in the schools of the Academy or the other architectural schools. I do not say they did better than others, but they did as much as they possibly could, and we are proud of them, and delighted to see them here again. (Applause.) And it is impossible for us to refer to that without also mentioning those who went out with them and fought for us, but have not returned. Without their sacrifice we should not be meeting here to-night. (Hear, hear.)

I do not know that one can talk to much advantage about architecture. There are two things that are wanted to produce good architecture. One is good architectural education, and the other good architecture, and perhaps the most important means of influencing the architecture of the future is by putting up good buildings ourselves. (Applause.) I agree with the President that the educational value of a good building it is almost impossible to exaggerate. When I was in New York a very keen business man on his way " down town " said to me : " Do you know, I very constantly go a little out of my way in order to go past McKim's Library, which he built for Pierpont Morgan. Looking at that building always does me good." Another story—I daresay you know it. Our old friend the late Phené Spiers was in the City one Sunday, when who should jump out of a hansom but Lord Leighton, who crossed the street and looked up at a building. Spiers asked him if he often came into the City on a Sunday. " Well," he said, " I do occasionally : I come to see this particular building, because it seems to rejuvenate my Greek sense of beauty." This shows the appeal a good building makes to those who are not architects. I must say I happen to be an optimist in the matter of the architect of the future, and am a little more confirmed in this by having read the other day that the Prime Minister has said that optimism need not necessarily be regarded as a crime. (Laughter.) I think it is much pleasanter, and much more useful to try and find out the good points of a building than it is to find out the bad ones. (Hear, hear.) To say, for instance,

to a young man : " I like that very much," or " That's a nice little bit." A little commendation of that kind may help him and lead to good results. (Applause.) A great friend of mine—a painter—now no longer with us, was on the verge of throwing up his career as a painter. He had been working at it for a long time, but without public recognition. But one morning, to his great surprise, he had an invitation from Lord Leighton to dine with him. He thought to himself " If I am good enough to be asked to dine there, I will stick to painting a little longer." He did, and eventually became a Royal Academician. (Applause.) One way in which we are advancing I think is this. When I was a young man we thought mainly of detail. When a man got a church, or a house, or something to build, the first thing he thought of was as to what sort of details he would have what windows, or what sort of staircase, etc. Fortunately for our art, we have got beyond that now ; when designing a building we think of the outline of it, the mass and the proportions. That is a great thing, and shows we are getting on. We are also getting beyond that, for we are beginning to think more of how our building is going to look in the street in which it is to be built, and its effect on the surroundings. What we ought to do is to try to make our work part of a whole scheme, not to strive for our own hand only. In addition, we are also paying attention not only to one particular street but to the direction of the whole of the streets, which means town planning. That, I think, is a very wholesome sign.

One other matter I would like to mention. The President gave us a very encouraging account of the housing schemes which are now going forward in England, and said that architects were now officially recognised as fitted to design houses. (Laughter.) I am very glad to hear it, but even if it is so, I do not know that it has gone very much further than that, for I have not heard of a great many architects being officially employed on this work. I know Dr. Addison has a very difficult task to carry out. He is being pressed to produce the houses at the greatest possible speed. I may be wrong—very likely I am—but I must say I was under the impression that these houses are being carried out mainly by the over-worked borough surveyors, with the help of a clerk to take up the additional work thrown on his shoulders. (Applause.) And I must say, for myself, using the President's words again, I do not altogether look forward with pleasure to the time when houses will pour in upon us like water from a pierced dam. (Laughter.)

As a last word, it seems to me that as the war has gone and peace has come, a great responsibility is put upon all of us. It has been said that we are born in war and we expire in peace. Well, there is no doubt that war does promote activity, and there is a fear that when peace comes we may lapse back into our old ways, and not use the energy which we ought to have to take advantage of the new issues which properly arise after a great war. I should like to see this Institute now come out of its shell. It has, naturally, I suppose, been somewhat quiescent during the war. I might also say, without being querulous, that many of us feel that those who were left here and could not go to fight were not recognised, nor used by the authorities as they might have been (applause) and as they would have liked to have been. We know that one of our past-Presidents, Mr. Ernest Newton, when he was President, devoted the whole of his time to Government war work, without, for some long time, any remuneration whatever. As the President has said, it was not for emolument, but merely that we all did wish to have the privilege of doing something for our country in its time of stress. Now that is all over, and, Sir, I am sure that, under your guidance, this Institute will go forward, and will prove to the authorities that architecture, and those who practise architecture, can be of great service to the State, and that architects are willing and anxious to devote such service.

I have much pleasure in seconding this vote of thanks to you, Sir, for your admirable address on this memorable occasion. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT, in the course of his response, said : You may be assured, your Excellency, that architects are not likely to develop into lawyers : if we can learn just a little about the fringe of that great profession, we shall be well satisfied. I hope, on the other hand, that lawyers will also be content to be only on the fringe of architecture. (Laughter.) Sir Aston Webb has been good enough to speak of the great expectations which the Royal Institute has formed at the beginning of the session. You may depend that I shall do my best. We have got a very fine Council, and they will do their best, too. I should like to take up the allusion Sir Aston Webb made about strikes. It is true that the Americans suffer in the same way that we do : perhaps, being a much larger nation, their sufferings are greater, but it does occur to me as a thing on which the nation may be congratulated that, up till now, no competent architect has ever planned a strike, or directed its execution. (Laughter and applause.)



## A PROFESSIONAL FEE FOR THE ARCHITECT:

A FEE AND THE COSTS, IN PLACE OF A PERCENTAGE ON THE COST OF THE BUILDING.

By R. CLIPSTON STURGIS, Past President of the American Institute of Architects.

(F) all the vexed questions connected with the practice of architecture, probably none has been so fruitful of trouble as the payments to the architect for his service. A commission, based on the cost of the work, is not only utterly unsuited for general application, but is open to the very real objection of the architect's financial interest in the cost of the work.

Attempts have been made to classify work according to its complexity and establish different rates of commission, and also to make sliding scales to obviate the inequalities of a commission as applied to works of greatly varying costs.

Recently both English and American architects have been faced with a new aspect of the problem, that is, work where the repetition of units makes a commission on the cost peculiarly inapplicable. This is not a problem wholly new to the American architect, because his lofty office buildings have floor after floor exact duplicates, but this is not quite the same as building a hundred houses all alike, which is the situation, developed by the war, in England and in the States.

The United States Housing Corporation, which was handling this work during the time when the United States was in the war, followed a method, which had but recently received the consideration and endorsement of the American Institute of Architects, of a fixed professional fee for the service of the architect, and then the payment of all cost of performing the professional service required.

A few architects had been using this method of charging for many years, and with such success, and such unfailing endorsement from clients, whether public or private, that some account of the way in which the method developed may be of interest to English architects.

The first step was based on the fact that the draughting of a job was a fair measure of its complexity, and that the fee should bear some relation to this. A study of the fees on completed work led to the conclusion that the average job netted the architect about one-half his commission. If he actually lost money on some small and complicated job, he made enough on the large and simple ones to even up, and the average job yielded half the gross fee as profit. It was also found that in offices of fair size, in large communities, the draughting pay-roll about equaled all other expenses—*i.e.*, rent, light, heat, clerical assistance and supplies. Therefore draughting times two was the actual cost, and a similar amount would give the architect his fee, so draughting times four was tried as the gross fee.

The first trial of this, some twenty years ago, proved that too much depended on the draughting pay-roll, and that this was as objectionable and as unfair as the commission basis. From this point the attempt was made to determine the fee irrespective of the draughting, leaving the draughting doubled to cover the cost. The first measure tried was the old commission basis, applied not to the final cost, but to the estimated cost of the work, and, as it was the professional fee only, it was half the commission. That is, with 6 per cent. on a \$100,000 job, 3 per cent. was the fee. This, however, was subject to all the old troubles of varying complexity and varying costs.

The next step, then, was to fix the fee tentatively on this half commission basis and then modify it by two other considerations, first, the complexity, and, second, the length of time of the service.

This sounds complicated, but is really fairly simple, because it so readily falls into terms of an annual salary, and a salary is the sort of thing that every one is used to and accustomed to measure by. An annual salary then, based on the character of the service, its length, and the approximate financial responsibility involved, seems to be the best way to determine the fee.

Incidentally, on this basis some of the huge fees, which are encountered more often in the States than in England, are shown up as unreasonably large—an office building costing \$3,000,000, and carried through, from first drawings to completion in two years would mean at 6 per cent. a fee of \$180,000: half of this at least clear profit, would mean a fee of \$90,000, or a salary of \$45,000 a year, and this generally for but part service of the architect, who undoubtedly would have other work. The average business man would at once question whether the service to be rendered by the architect was worth this, where he might not question the accepted rate of commission.

There are various advantages in this method which will be touched on later, but one, which influences the determination of the fee, may be mentioned here. Under this plan both the cost of the architect's force and the architect's fee are paid monthly from the start. Under the commission system an architect used to wait for a first payment until a contract was signed. Theoretically this was because until the contract was signed there was no amount on which to base a commission. The older men know what a burden this was when work dragged and many changes multiplied drawings with no prospect of compensation for the redrawing unless the building cost in excess of the amount originally proposed. Then there came a time when the architect got a part payment when preliminary sketches were accepted and this commission was based on an approximate estimate. Even this, however, was but a step toward the good business principle of paying as you go, and not making bargains which involve the furnishing of capital and interest on it.

Under the fee system payments are made monthly from the beginning of the work, a portion of the fee,

and the whole cost of draughting to date. It is customary to reserve a fifth of the fee payable at the end and divide the remainder into monthly payments.

As examples of the application, assume two pieces of work, one a house estimated to cost \$100,000, and one an office building, of ten storeys of which eight are duplicates, estimated to cost \$500,000. The time for each being estimated at eighteen months, it may be fairly assumed that these two involve an equal amount of service on the part of the architect himself. The first costs but one-fifth of the second, but will require the constant personal attention of the architect, from the first sketches to the last finishing touches: while the second, once past the stages of study of plan and design, will be executed by the office with but little further attention from the head. The question, then, would be to determine a fair fee for the eighteen months' service, bearing in mind that the first involves more personal attention, and the second responsibility for a greater investment. In fixing the value of this service one will also bear in mind that the architect assumes no risk of having his profit eaten into by draughting, that he will not have to carry his office expense except month by month, and that he will receive a share of his fee each month. Assume that \$4,000 a year—that is, \$6,000 for a year and a half—would be a fair professional fee. Twenty per cent. reserved, \$1,200, would leave \$4,800 to be distributed in eighteen monthly payments, \$266 a month.

Compare this with the commission basis. As customary in the States, the house would be at least ten per cent., and the office building six per cent.—10 per cent. on \$100,000 is \$10,000 and the architect would be fortunate if his expenses did not run over half of this. Six per cent. of the \$500,000 would be \$30,000, and it is unlikely that the expenses would be even half this amount, and the architect would net on the office building three times as much; but one is so used to thinking of service in percentages of cost that it is difficult to see this.

A somewhat extreme contrast is taken here merely to emphasise the comparison. Probably in practice one would be more influenced by the actual expenditure, and would place a somewhat lower fee than \$6,000 on the house, and a somewhat higher fee than \$6,000 on the office building, but it is surely obvious that the service of the architect himself is not worth three times as much, or even twice as much, and that \$5,000 and \$8,000 would be a fairer ratio between the two.

The first great advantage of the professional fee, then, is the ready means of gauging it according to the character of the service to be rendered and the length of the service, in place of depending entirely on the cost of the work.

The second advantage is its ready adaptation to partial service. The reserved twenty per cent. is a convenient amount with which to terminate the work at any period. If but two months' work has been rendered and only the preliminary drawings are com-

plete when the owner abandons the work, he pays the reserve, twenty per cent., and the two months' fee and expenses, and the whole matter is closed. At any stage of the work this is a fair settlement.

The fee applies also to work which is originally partial service—professional advice, a preliminary survey and report, consultation, judgments and arbitration. All of these would carry a fee based on the character of the service and its duration, and often there would be no expenditure at all on the part of the owner, and never any reason for basing the value of the professional service on the cost, even when there is any.

It applies also to work involving almost nothing except the architect's personal work. When an architect charges twenty-five per cent. for designing, detailing, and following the execution of a carved screen which costs but \$1,000, the percentage seems huge; but the payment of \$250 for such service is, if anything, small. If a design, involving no more service, is executed in a material that makes the screen cost \$5,000, it is absurd that the architect should receive five times as much for exactly the same service. If, however, he told the owner at the outset that for this personal intimate service, where design, details, and the supervision of models and execution were to be wholly his own, he proposed to charge \$500, the owner would compare it with the fee for an operation for appendicitis, and probably conclude that it was fair enough.

I append a form used in my own practice which is perhaps the best way of showing the application of the fee system, and I give the following examples of various pieces of work executed by my office on this system:—

#### (1) A Bank Building.

	Estimated	Actual cost.
Building .. ..	\$600,000.	\$592,494.00
To take .. ..	24 months	24 months
Fee .. ..	16,000.	16,000.00
Draughting .. ..	15,000.	15,218.46
Engineers .. ..	2,700.	2,680.32
Incidentals .. ..	2,700.	496.50
Clerk .. ..	3,600.	1,960.00
Models .. ..	—	414.00
Perspective by Guerin ..	—	520.50

#### (2) A Small Country House.

	Estimated.	Actual cost.
Building .. ..	\$29,000.	\$32,025.49
To take .. ..	9 months	12 months
Fee .. ..	1,800.	*†2,100.00
Draughting .. ..	1,000.	*1,501.42
Engineers .. ..	300.	456.30
Incidentals .. ..	250.	191.98

† The increase in fee represents three months' more service.

#### (3) An Institution for the Blind.

	Estimated.	Actual cost.
Building .. ..	\$886,000.	\$1,017,159.29
To take .. ..	2 to 3 years	32 months
Fee .. ..	18,000 to 25,000.	*25,000.00
Draughting .. ..	25,000.	*24,469.47
Engineers .. ..	9,000.	9,910.99
Incidentals .. ..	500.	1,118.72
Clerk of Works .. ..	4,000.	10,627.50
Advice on grounds .. ..	—	889.35

## (4) War Housing.

	Estimated.	Actual Cost.
Buildings .. ..	\$3,500,000.	\$4,500,000.00
Fee .. ..	—	*13,000.00
Draughting .. ..	—	*23,941.75
Domestic Engineers .. ..	No	2,000.00
Incidentals .. ..	Estimate	10,031.74
Clerk of the Works .. ..	made	6,647.20
Advice on grounds .. ..	—	125.00

NOTE.—The Government employed and paid in addition a Landscape Architect and an Engineer for streets and utilities.

## (5) A School.

	Estimated.	Actual Cost.
Building .. ..	\$91,327.50	\$91,516.78
To take .. ..	11 months	18 months
Fee .. ..	2,000.00	*2,000.00
Draughting .. ..	3,000.00	*3,357.77
Engineers .. ..	950.00	942.75
Incidentals .. ..	300.00	354.65
Clerk of the Works .. ..	500.00	471.35

## (6) A Telephone Exchange.

	Estimated.	Actual Cost.
Building .. ..	\$370.192.	‡\$436,899.99
To take .. ..	15 months	20 months
Fee .. ..	8,000.	*8,000.00
Draughting .. ..	9,000.	*10,401.41
Engineers .. ..	4,500.	5,925.99
Incidentals .. ..	500.	862.23
Clerk of Works .. ..	2,600.	4,000.00

## (7) A Carved Wooden Doorway.

	Estimated.	Actual Cost.
The work .. ..	\$2,700.	\$2,913.00
Fee .. ..	—	*450.00
Draughting .. ..	—	*49.26
Incidentals .. ..	—	.10

\* Architect's gross commission.

‡ War-time contract account for increased cost.

In all these examples there are but two items which under the A.I.A. schedule, would be set against a commission, the fee and the draughting doubled: all other expenses the owner would pay anyway. No. 1 was 5 per cent.; No. 2, 10 per cent.; No. 3, 5 per cent.; No. 4, 03 4 per cent.; No. 5, 6 per cent.; No. 6, 4½ per cent.; No. 7, 17 per cent. It will be seen, therefore, that in all the larger jobs the cost to the owner is lower than the commission customary here; that on the moderate cost school it is about the same, that on the carved doorway it is a very high per cent., and that on the housing it is a very low per cent. It is interesting to note that the Telephone Building, which cost \$66,000 more than the estimate, due to the wholly fortuitous accident of war, would have yielded the architect \$3,600 more on a commission basis when he had done nothing to earn it. In every case, however, the fee was net profit, it was a fee that was assured and without risk, and it was entirely satisfactory both to owner and architect. From the point of view of the architect there is the inestimable value of an assured income: each job carries its own expenses and pays its monthly fee. Study of plans made with a view to meeting more fully the needs of the owner and to assure the greatest economy is encouraged, and is, quite rightly, paid for by the owner. No owner will object to paying for a month's

work of three draughtsmen, resulting in economies ten times the amount of their salaries. Both architect and owner are relieved to feel that the carelessness or indifference of the architect, which results in needless cost, is not rewarded, and that conscientious and careful study, resulting in economy, is not penalized. It is also very satisfactory both to architect and owner to feel that when a decision is to be made between materials or methods involving different expenditures, that the decision will have no effect whatsoever on the fee. The exterior of a Town Hall was changed from brick ashlar to cut stone. \$10,000 was added to the cost of the work. The fee to the architect was unchanged. The interior of a Public Library was changed from plaster to marble, \$25,000 added to the contract, and the architect received 6 per cent. on this and frankly said that he was genuinely troubled at receiving \$1,500 and giving no service in return, for the design was unchanged.

No one who has ever tried this method would ever want to return to the commission basis, and in England, where the service of the quantity surveyor covers so much which is done here partly in the architect's office and partly by the contractor, it is especially applicable, because the architect's service is so clearly defined.

A. I. A. Document, Series A, No. 129.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.  
THE FEE PLUS COST SYSTEM OF CHARGES: A DESCRIPTION OF THE USE OF THE SYSTEM.

A Circular of Information relating to the Fee Plus Cost System of Charging for Professional Services, is issued in connection with a Form of Agreement between Architect and Owner, for Use when such a System is Employed.

GENERAL.

A system under which the Architect charges a fixed professional fee for his personal services, and, in addition, charges his various expenses at cost, is both logical and flexible. When the study of a problem is started, the work can be analysed with approximate accuracy as to the degree of personal service involved, and a sum agreed upon that is mutually satisfactory as a fee for the personal, professional services of the Architect. This amount is guaranteed, and can therefore reasonably be reduced to a minimum.

The cost of draughting and other expenses of the Architect involved in the performance of this service, including all overhead costs, are charged to the owner at cost. The owner trusts the Architect to expend economically the money invested in the building and will be equally willing to trust him to expend economically and wisely, as well as honestly, the much smaller amount involved in draughting and other costs.

This system of charging places the Architect in a position where he can advise the owner on the investment of his money without having his professional remuneration in any way affected by the final amount actually expended. The adaptability of the system to the work of public, private, and corporate owners has been demonstrated in actual practice for many years.

DETERMINATION OF FEE.

The fee should be determined according to the personal service demanded. In each case the Architect should con-

sider the intensity of personal service to be required of him, the length of time during which such service is to be rendered, and the responsibility involved in such service. No fixed percentage of the cost can be adopted by which to determine the fee. The service demanded in connection with a private residence will manifestly be more exacting and greater in amount in proportion to the expenditure involved than in connection with a warehouse. Each Architect must, therefore, decide upon his individual scale by which to determine his fees, which would naturally approximate the amount he would expect to clear, under reasonable conditions, if he were working on the usual percentage basis; taking into consideration, however, that the fee is guaranteed and need not be increased to take care of any uncertain items of expense, but rather can be reduced to the reasonable minimum.

It is also to be borne in mind that while the fee has been determined in connection with an estimated cost of the work, it is not to be affected by any difference between this estimate and the actual final cost of the work. If the scope of the work is changed so as materially to increase or diminish the intensity, duration, or responsibility of service, then the agreement with the owners should be modified to fit the new conditions. If the conditions of service remain unchanged, the fee remains unaffected by the actual final cost of the work.\*

#### DRAFTING.

By "cost of draughting" is meant the actual sums paid to members of the office force, other than the Architect and the clerk of the works, for draughting, writing specifications and supervising the construction of the work.

The cost of draughting on any piece of work will have a varying relation to the cost of the work, dependent on the character of the undertaking [obviously less for a warehouse than for a hotel], and also dependent on the Architect's office administration—that is, the scale of salaries paid, the completeness or incompleteness of drawings and specifications, etc. It can only be estimated by each Architect for himself, in the light of his own experience.

Charges for draughting by the Architect himself should not be made under this item. The fee is for the personal service of the Architect. If it is his custom to do a considerable amount of draughting, or if a particular piece of work will involve an unusual amount of his own time for original design or detailing, the fee should be accordingly increased. It is not proper under this system for the Architect to obtain profit otherwise than from his professional fee.

#### OTHER COSTS.

There are two kinds of cost-items, in addition to draughting, connected with the expenses of an Architect's office:

(1) Those items easily chargeable directly to a particular piece of work, such as engineers, clerk of the works, travel, long-distance telephoning, legal advice, blue-printing, models, etc. These should be so charged.

(2) Overhead costs not easily apportioned:

These overhead costs, such as rent, light, heat, stenography, supplies, postage, etc., have a certain logical relation to the total cost of draughtsmen's salaries, which relation will differ in different offices, but in each will remain fairly constant. Each office should determine this relation and in charging the draughting to each job, add a fixed percentage to cover the overhead charges. The overhead charges will probably vary from 60 to 100 per cent. of the draughting. If the Architect, as a general rule, does most of his draughting himself, under the item of professional fee, as noted above, the overhead charges may very likely be more than the cost of the remaining draughting.

\* When the cost or scope of the work may not with reasonable accuracy be determined in advance or is likely to change, the fee may be a percentage of the cost instead of a fixed amount. It will then automatically adjust itself as the scope of the work changes. The percentage charged, as in the case of the fixed fee, varies according to the amount and character of service required.

#### RENDERING OF ACCOUNTS.

Under this system accounts can be rendered monthly, each statement covering a payment on account of the fee, and reimbursement of costs incurred during the previous month. The various items of cost offer no problems. Payments on account of the fee need to be predetermined.

Having settled the fee, it is well for the sense of security of the owner to set aside a sum, reasonably about 20 per cent. of the fee, to be paid on the issuance of the final certificate. The balance of the fee should be paid in monthly instalments during the progress of the work. For instance, suppose a \$50,000 residence with a professional fee of \$2,000; duration of the work from date of agreement to final certificate estimated at eighteen months, retained for payment on issuance of final certificate, \$400; balance, \$1,600, paid in sixteen monthly payments of \$100, or perhaps ten monthly payments of \$160, as conditions might warrant.

Rendering monthly charges against the fee in this way is advantageous to the Architect, in that it gives him a steadier income. It is acceptable to the owner, since it creates a definite monthly item of expense that is expected in connection with the other monthly expenses.

#### A FORM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND ARCHITECT

##### ON THE FEE PLUS COST SYSTEM.

(Copyright, 1917, by the American Institute of Architects, The Octagon, Washington, D.C.)

THIS AGREEMENT made the..... day of..... in the year Nineteen Hundred and..... by and between..... hereinafter called the Owner, and..... hereinafter called the Architect.

WITNESSETH that whereas the Owner intends to erect..... (Add here brief description of scope and manner of execution of work.)

NOW, THEREFORE, the Owner and the Architect, for the considerations hereinafter named, agree as follows:

The Architect agrees to perform for the above-named work, professional services as stated in Article 1 of the "Conditions of Agreement between Owner and Architect" hereinafter set forth.

The Owner agrees to pay the Architect the sum of..... dollars (\$.....) as his fee, of which..... dollars (\$.....) is to be paid in..... equal instalments monthly, beginning..... the balance to be paid on issuance of final certificate; and to reimburse the Architect monthly all costs incurred by him in the performance of his duties hereunder as more fully set forth in the said "Conditions."

The parties hereto further agree to the following:

#### CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND ARCHITECT.

ARTICLE 1. THE ARCHITECT'S SERVICES.—The Architect's professional services consist of the necessary conferences, the preparation of preliminary studies, working drawings, specifications, large-scale and full-size detail drawings; the drafting of forms of proposals and contracts; the issuance of certificates of payment; the keeping of accounts, the general administration of the business and supervision of the work.

2. THE ARCHITECT'S FEE.—The fee payable by the owner to the Architect for his personal professional services shall be as named elsewhere in this agreement.

In case of the abandonment or suspension of the work or of any part or parts thereof, the Architect is to be paid in proportion to the services rendered on account of it up to the time of its abandonment or suspension, such proportion being 20 per cent. upon completion of preliminary sketches and 60 per cent. upon completion of working drawings and specifications.

If the scope of the work or the manner of its execution is materially changed subsequent to the signing of the agreement the fee shall be adjusted to fit the new conditions.

If additional personal service of the Architect is made necessary by the delinquency or insolvency of either the owner or the contractor, or as a result of damage by fire, he shall be equitably paid by the owner for such extra service.

3. **THE ARCHITECT'S COSTS.**—The Architect shall maintain an efficient and accurate cost-keeping system as to all costs incurred by him in connection with the subject of this agreement, and his accounts, at all reasonable times, shall be open to the inspection of the owner or his authorised representatives.

The costs referred to in this article comprise the following items:

(a) The sums paid for drafting, including verification of shop drawings, for specification writing and for supervision of the work.

(b) The sums paid to structural, mechanical, electrical, sanitary or other engineers.

(c) The sums paid for incidental expenses such as costs of transportation or living incurred by the Architect or his assistants while travelling in discharge of duties connected with the work, costs of reproducing drawings, printing or mimeographing the specifications, models, telegrams, long-distance telephone calls, legal advice, expressage, etc.

(d) A proportion of the general expenses of the Architect's office, commonly called "Overhead," representing items that cannot be apportioned in detail to this work, such as rent, light, heat, stenographer's services, postage, drafting materials, telephone, accounting, business administration, etc.

It is agreed that the charge for such general expenses shall be . . . . per cent. of item (a) of this article.

4. **PAYMENTS.**—On or about the first day of each month the Architect shall present to the owner a detailed statement of the payment due on account of the fee and the costs referred to in Article 3 and the owner shall pay the Architect the amount thereof.

5. **THE OWNER'S DECISIONS.**—The owner shall give thorough consideration to all sketches, drawings, specifications, proposals, contracts, and other documents laid before him by the Architect, and, whenever prompt action is necessary, he shall inform the Architect of his decisions in such reasonable time as not to delay the work of the Architect nor to prevent him from giving drawings or instructions to contractors in due season.

6. **SURVEY, BORINGS AND TESTS.**—The owner shall furnish the Architect with a complete and accurate survey of the building site, giving the grades and lines of streets, pavements and adjoining properties; the rights, restrictions, boundaries and contours of the building site, and full information as to sewer, water, gas, and electrical service. The owner is to pay for test borings or pits and for chemical, mechanical, or other tests when required.

7. **SUPERVISION OF THE WORK.**—The Architect will endeavour to guard the owner against defects and deficiencies in the work of contractors, but he does not guarantee the performance of their contracts. The supervision of an Architect is to be distinguished from the continuous personal superintendence to be obtained by the employment of a clerk of the works.

When authorised by the owner, a clerk of the works, acceptable to both owner and Architect, shall be engaged by the Architect at a salary satisfactory to the owner and paid by the owner.

8. **PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES.**—When requested to do so, the Architect will make or procure preliminary estimates on the cost of the work and he will endeavour to keep the actual cost of the work as low as may be consistent with the purpose of the building and with proper workmanship and material, but no such estimate can be regarded as other than an approximation.

9. **OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS.**—Drawings and specifications as instruments of service are the property of the Architect whether the work for which they are made be executed or not.

10. **SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNMENT.**—The owner and the Architect, each binds himself, his successors, executors, administrators, and assigns to the other party to this agreement, and to the successors, executors, administrators, and assigns of such other party in respect of all the covenants of this agreement.

The Architect shall have the right to join with him in the performance of this agreement any architect or architects with whom he may in good faith enter into partnership relations. In case of the death or disability of one or more partners, the rights and duties of the Architect, if a firm, shall devolve upon the remaining partner or partners or upon such firm as may be established by him or them, and he, they or it, shall be recognised as the "successor" of the Architect, and so on until the service covered by the agreement has been performed. The owner shall have the same rights, but in his case no limitation as to the vocation of those admitted to partnership is imposed.

Except as above, neither the owner nor the Architect shall assign, sublet, or transfer his interest in this agreement without the written consent of the other.

11. **ARBITRATION.**—All questions in dispute under this agreement shall be submitted to arbitration at the choice of either party.

No one shall be nominated or act as an arbitrator who is in any way financially interested in this contract or in the business affairs of either party.

The general procedure shall conform to the laws of the State in which the work is to be erected. Unless otherwise provided by such laws, the parties may agree upon one arbitrator; otherwise there shall be three, one named in writing by each party and the third chosen by these two arbitrators, or if they fail to select a third within ten days then he shall be chosen by the presiding officer of the Bar Association nearest to the location of the work. Should the party demanding arbitration fail to name an arbitrator within ten days of his demand, his right to arbitration shall lapse. Should the other party fail to choose an arbitrator within said ten days, then such presiding officer shall appoint such arbitrator. Should either party refuse or neglect to supply the arbitrators with any papers or information demanded in writing, the arbitrators are empowered by both parties to proceed *ex parte*.

The arbitrators shall act with promptness. If there be one arbitrator his decision shall be binding; if three, the decision of any two shall be binding. Such decision shall be a condition precedent to any right of legal action, and wherever permitted by law it may be filed in court to carry it into effect.

The arbitrators shall fix their own compensation, unless otherwise provided by agreement, and shall assess the costs and charges of the arbitration upon either or both parties.

The award of the arbitrators must be in writing and, if in writing, it shall not be open to objection on account of the form of the proceedings or the award, unless otherwise provided by the laws of the State in which the work is to be erected.

The owner and the Architect hereby agree to the full performance of the covenants contained herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF they have executed this agreement, the day and year first above written.

.....  
.....

# AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND ARCHITECT

COVERING ARCHITECT'S SERVICES FOR WORK ON  
ADDITION TO THE.....BANK.

1st February 1919.

1. **THE WORK CONTEMPLATED.**—The work for which the Architect is to render professional services under this agreement consists of an addition to the present bank of two storeys, estimated by the Architect at this time to cost about Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) without furniture and fittings. This agreement, however, will not be affected by any change in this amount.

2. **SCOPE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO BE RENDERED.**—The Architect shall render complete professional services, consisting of conferences, preliminary studies, working drawings, specifications, large scale and full-size detail drawings as may be necessary, together with the supervision of the work not including furniture. The charges noted below under "Architect's Salary" are for the personal professional service of Mr. Sturgis. The expense of draughting, engineers, incidentals, and superintendence will be paid by the owner in addition to such salary, as noted below under "Additional Charges."

The Architect will file with the owner one set of prints of the original contract drawings when the contract is let, and another set, mounted on cloth, corrected to embody all changes made during construction, at the completion of the work.

The Architect shall in person and by representatives give such superintendence to the work during construction as may be required to ensure the work being executed in general conformity with the plans and specifications, and such further instructions as may be given from time to time. Such inspection cannot prevent poor workmanship or the use of poor materials, but can require the making good of such defects as appear in the work, so far as practicable. Any more complete supervision can only be obtained by the employment of a clerk of the works continuously, which additional service shall be procured as noted below.

The expense of draughting, engineers, and other expenses will be paid by the owner in addition to such salary, as noted below under "Additional Charges."

3. **ARCHITECT'S SALARY.**—(a) If the work as contemplated at this time is carried on steadily to completion it is estimated that the Architect's services will terminate in from twelve to eighteen months. If the work is completed in twelve months the Architect shall receive a total salary of six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). This amount shall be paid as follows: \$400.00 a month for twelve months with the final balance of \$1,200.00 to be paid on the issuance of the final certificate to the contractor.

If the work takes longer than twelve months then the Architect shall continue with a salary of \$400.00 a month, and \$100.00 a month shall be added to the amount of the final payment. Total, however, not to exceed \$10,000.00.

(b) If for reasons beyond the control of the Architect the work is delayed so as to extend over a period materially in excess of that contemplated as noted above, and so as to entail additional services on his part, or if the work is abandoned prior to its completion so as to lessen the services rendered, then the total amount of the Architect's salary shall be increased or diminished by an amount to be mutually agreed on by the owner and Architect.

(c) The owner may at any time abandon or suspend the work and the employment of the Architect shall thereupon terminate if the work is abandoned and be suspended if the work is suspended.

(d) If the undertaking is abandoned and the employment of the Architect consequently terminated, he shall be paid the reserved amount \$1,200.00.

(e) If the work is suspended at any time so as to suspend also the work of the Architect the owner shall be at liberty to suspend payments on the Architect's salary until his work is resumed, without affecting otherwise the terms of this agreement.

(4) **ADDITIONAL CHARGES.**—In addition to the Architect's salary determined above, there will be the following additional items of expense to be paid by the owner through the Architect.

(a) **Draughting.**—Strict account shall be kept by the Architect of the cost of draughting, such cost to be the total of the salaries paid to draughtsmen engaged on the drawings, including time spent in writing specifications, but no charge is to be made for time so spent by Mr. Sturgis, and all expenses of stenographic work on specifications or otherwise, done in the Architect's office, are to be considered as a "regular office expense." No charge shall be made for superintendence on the part of Mr. Sturgis.

The total amount of such draughting expense shall be multiplied by two to cover the proportionate share of regular office expenses, and this resulting amount shall be paid monthly on statements in detail from the Architect. The total expense under this item is estimated at \$6,000.00.

(b) **Engineers.**—The services of structural, domestic and sanitary engineers shall be paid for through the Architect, at cost. The total expense under this item is estimated at \$7,000.00.

(c) **Incidentals.**—Incidental expenses in connection with the work, such as printing specifications, blue-printing, travelling expenses, models, long-distance telephone, telegraph, express and other miscellaneous charges shall be paid at cost on monthly statements from the Architect. The total expense under this item is estimated at \$1,000.00.

(d) **Clerk of the Works.**—The services of a clerk of the works will be required, and will be paid for by the owner through the Architect at cost. The total expense under this item is estimated at \$2,000.00. He shall be the representative of both the owner and the Architect and shall report each week to the owner through the Architect.

(e) **Summary.**—The above estimates are summarised as follows:

(a) Draughting ..	\$6,000.00	
(b) Engineers ..	7,000.00	
(c) Incidentals ..	1,000.00	
(d) Clerk of the works ..	2,000.00	
	16,000.00	16,000.
With salary of twelve months .. ..	6,000.00	or outside limit 10,000.
	\$22,000.00	\$26,000.

The above charges shall be paid monthly as they are incurred on detailed statements from the Architect.

The costs given for the additional charges under Article (4) above are understood to be approximate estimates and the final costs under these items will vary from the amounts given, depending upon conditions developing during the progress of the work, and the Architect does not guarantee the accuracy of these estimates.

IN WITNESS whereof the above parties hereto have duly signed this instrument the..... day of ....., 1919.

.....  
.....  
.....



## BLOTS ON ENGLISH LANDSCAPE.

By CANON RAWNSLEY, in *The Observer*, 5th Oct. 1919.

Wordsworth, in his incomparable *Guide to the English Lakes*, speaking of Gray's journal, says that the reader of it must have been impressed with the words which conclude the notice of the Vale of Grasmere—"Not a single red tile, no flaring gentleman's house or garden wall, breaks in upon the repose of this little, unsuspected paradise, but all is peace, rusticity, and happy poverty in its neatest and most becoming attire;" and he adds, "What is here so justly said of Grasmere applied almost equally to all its sister vales."

It is well for the undisturbed pleasure of the poet that he had no forebodings of the change which was soon to take place. How Wordsworth deplored the alterations in the landscape in his day is set out fully in the chapter from which this quotation is made. "In truth," he says, "no one can now travel through the more frequented tracts without being offended at almost every turn by an introduction of discordant objects disturbing that peaceful harmony of form and colour which had been through a long lapse of ages most happily preserved."

If Wordsworth could come back again he would find not only in the Lake District, but in the more beautiful parts of Surrey and Kent, that the same sorrow had fallen on the natural beauty of the land.

Who can blame the weary workers of the large towns from determining to get away, if only from a Saturday to Monday, to quiet country calm? What we blame them for is that they take so little trouble to remember that unless they are considerate of their neighbours, and careful in the selection of their architects, they may, by the house they erect, make a blot upon the beauty of the whole countryside, and cause trouble of heart to all passers-by.

In most countries there are architects who have made a study of the special architectural features and the traditional types of building of the neighbourhood. If such architects are employed they will not only select the place where a house can be built without offence, but they will ensure that when it is built it seems a natural part of the scenery. The beauty of the houses in the Lake District, as both Wordsworth and Ruskin knew, lay largely in the fact that, built of native material, they seemed to grow out of the ground and were part and parcel of the rocky solitudes which they adorned. Even when rough-cast and colour-washed they took on weather stains which harmonised more or less with their surroundings.

No Surrey architect of sensitive feeling would, if he had his own way, take Homster slate down to that country, any more than a Cumberland man would import Surrey tiles into the Lake District. But the men who come from the towns place themselves in the hands of a city architect who has spent his time in building suburban villas and who thinks scorn of the country architect, and believes, by an importation from suburbia, he can show him a thing or two—not excluding a white flagstaff! Hence it comes to pass that throughout the length and breadth of the land houses rise in favoured country districts which are so entirely out of keeping with the traditional methods of building, and so alien in design to the tradition of the neighbourhood, as to be a permanent offence. In the time that is close upon us, when the costliness of labour will largely handicap the builder, the problem of preserving traditional forms and the use of traditional materials will be greater than ever, and unless public opinion can be educated or some society can be formed—as, before the war, was formed in Switzerland—to keep a sharp look-out upon any builder's plans, both in town and country alike, and then in the friendliest way to give advice to the would-be house-builder, we shall have the whole country disfigured, both by mansion and cottage, in a way that after ages will deplore.

The time has come for a society to be formed in every

county which shall hold a watching brief against uglification of the landscape. If such societies of representative men and women could be brought together and would undertake not only to report proposed damage to landscape but to advise the would-be perpetrators in a friendly manner as to some alternative scheme before matters have got too far, a good deal might be done.

So much of the harm done to our rural scenery is done thoughtlessly: trees, for example, hardly worth the cost of felling, which were landmarks for miles, are suddenly cut down. When woodlands are cleared, mutilated trees are left standing; again, from sheer carelessness, plantations are sometimes made that entirely hide beautiful landscape or river or lake scenery from the passer-by; high walls are built or hedges allowed to grow for miles along a road where a low wall or a low hedge would have allowed a beautiful prospect. Glaring advertisements are unduly displayed that are an eyesore to all and a disturbing note in the landscape. The motor industry is here much to blame. There is no reason why the tyre makers and oil sellers should so disregard all colour sense as to positively destroy the amenity of a whole countryside by their glaring yellows and reds.

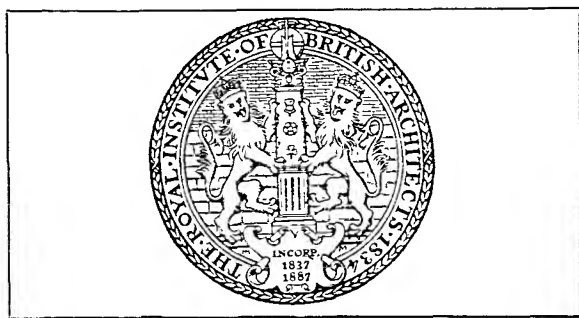
We can learn a lesson in these matters from Switzerland, where the joy of passing through the country is enhanced by the absence of road-side fences, and the care which the Swiss give, with certain exceptions, to the colour scheme of their advertisements.

The litter nuisance is another trouble of which thoughtlessness is largely the cause. Nothing but education in our elementary and secondary schools will avail here as to the selfishness of leaving paper, empty match-boxes, and sweetmeat and cigarette coverings to destroy the amenity of beautiful resting places and quiet fields. Local district authorities should be much more careful than they are at present as to their rubbish tips; and public bodies and private people should be urged to desist from polluting ponds and rivers with refuse, broken pottery, and tins.

But public bodies, whether they be the country road authorities or the Government department for telegraphs and telephones, need constantly to be reminded that beauty as well as use is to be considered.

Motor traffic is doubtless the cause of much of the needless destruction of our more beautiful ancient bridges and curving roads, but by keeping hedges low, so that approaching traffic may be seen, and by widening bridges on their present beautiful lines, or by strengthening their structure by the use of the grouting machine, much might be done to preserve beauty both of bridge and road. As it is, bridges are condemned and replaced by concrete and steel structures that allow of a straight run through, and the highway authorities will often not be at the extra cost of paying a qualified architect's fee for advice, and bridges are built without any return curves in their parapets, and the parapets themselves, instead of being in proportion to the bridge's span—and affording delightful prospect and grateful rest—are built indiscriminately breast-high.

The tree-logging by roadmen who have no knowledge of forestry is pitiable. Trees are so cut about as to leave them lop-sided, and often one could wish the tree was felled rather than be left so disfigured. The process of cleaning up the roadside wastes, while it delights the heart of the roadman, robs the passer-by of much joy in bird and flower life. For all these reasons education is needed, and it is believed that if such a society as was lately formed in the Lake District of people who will keep a careful watch and try friendly persuasion, was found in each county much good may result. Such societies, if in existence, could be leagued together, and public opinion, by their co-operative action, would be stimulated.



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 8th November 1919.

## CHRONICLE.

### The Opening Meeting.

A large and brilliant company assembled at the Institute on the 4th inst. to greet the new President and hear his Inaugural Address and the remarks of the distinguished speakers who honoured the Institute by their presence on the occasion. The meeting was held in the Great Gallery, and though, in anticipation of a crush, the side gangways had been filled with seats the accommodation fell far short of requirements and the audience overflowed several deep into the Common Room. The attendance broke all records, not only of members but of visitors, a considerable number of whom were ladies. One could not but contrast the air of cheeriness and gaiety and general well-being which pervaded the meeting with the settled gloom and depression which weighed over all at the meetings held under the shadow of the Great War. The Council Dinner Club, which has been revived, entertained at dinner several of the distinguished visitors. Among those present at the meeting were the American Ambassador and Mrs. Davis, Sir Aston Webb, Sir Reginald Blomfield, Sir George Frampton, Sir Edward Busk, Sir John Burnet, Sir Stanley Leathes, Sir A. S. Cope, Sir Bamster Fletcher, Mr. Ernest Newton, Major Harry Barnes, M.P., Mr. Derwent Wood, Mr. Maurice Webb, Mr. Topham Forrest, and others. After the speeches the function took on more of the nature of a *conversazione*, and it was well on the stroke of eleven before the last of the company separated.

### Message from the King.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. ARTHUR KEEN, during the course of the proceedings last Tuesday, made the following announcement, the whole assembly standing during the reading of the Royal message:—His Majesty the King, our Patron, in response to the expression of our loyal and dutiful homage, has been pleased to send us a gracious message which reads as follows:—

*Buckingham Palace.*

*I am commanded to thank you, the Council and Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, for the message of loyalty you have addressed to the King, your Patron, on the occasion of the*

*Inaugural Meeting of your first Session since the termination of the War; and I am to assure you of His Majesty's abiding interest in the activities of the Institute in all its various branches.*

*The King feels confident that the members of the architectural profession will do full justice to the great responsibilities that rest upon them in the Nation's work of reconstruction.*

PRIVATE SECRETARY

The PRESIDENT: God save the King!

### The Examinations: Special War Exemption.

From the Regulations already published some have thought that the concessions granted by the Council are limited to "Students" who were registered before their military service. As this has caused some confusion, it is now laid down that the *mere failure to Register as a Student and pay the fee* shall not disqualify, provided the other conditions have been fulfilled—i.e., any candidate who is otherwise eligible but has not actually been registered as a Student, may be so registered at the same time as he applies to have his claims submitted for the Special War Exemption.

### Delay in Housing Schemes.

It has been reported to the Council of the Royal Institute that there are cases where housing schemes are being delayed owing to the whole of the work having been entrusted to the local borough surveyor or engineer, whose official duties make it difficult for him to give much time to this new work. Should Members or Licentiates be acquainted with any such cases they are invited to forward particulars, in the case of London and the home counties to the Secretary R.I.B.A., and in the case of other districts to the local Allied Society.

### National Housing Scheme: Wooden Bungalows.

The Ministry of Health, in a recent announcement, state that they are negotiating with a number of firms in regard to large-scale erection of houses in such materials as wood, reinforced concrete, interlocking and terra-cotta hollow bricks, steel and concrete construction, and asbestos sheeting, with a view to securing a more rapid erection of houses to meet the present urgent needs of the community. Messrs. Boulton & Paul are prepared to erect a large number of one-storey wooden bungalows on a plan now approved by the Ministry of Health. The approximate cost of each bungalow would be about £600, exclusive of water supply, drainage, fencing, paths, entrance gates, etc. The equipment includes complete concrete foundations, baths, kitchen range, stoves in the bedrooms, boiler, and brick chimney, and the walls will have an inside lining of fibrous plaster. The accommodation of such houses would include living room, kitchen, and three bedrooms. Messrs. Boulton & Paul hope to be able to build at the rate of 1,000 bungalows a year, and to have some erected by next spring. The Ministry would allow the local authority forty years in which to repay the loan raised for the purpose of providing these bungalows.



**National Housing Schemes: Model Form of Contract.**

The Institute has received a copy of the Model Forms [D. 88], which the Ministry of Health have issued for the general guidance of local authorities and public utility societies in connection with contracts for State-aided housing schemes. "General Housing Memorandum No. 10" says that, subject to any modifications to suit local conditions, these forms should be adopted wherever possible. They comprise a model Form of Tender for use where the contractor tenders for and undertakes to erect the whole of the houses required; an Alternative Form of Tender for use where a portion only of the total number of houses required is tendered for; and a Form of Contract comprising Articles of Agreement, Conditions of Contract, and a "Schedule of Prices." The procedure provides for tenders being submitted and the contract entered into for a lump sum, subject to additions or deductions consequent on variation orders or adjustment of provisional amounts or "prime cost" items. Included in the conditions of contract are provisions for adjustment of the contract price in the event of changes in rates of labour or costs of materials. The Ministry consider that such provisions should be regarded as a purely temporary measure, and they express the hope that there may be a gradually increasing number of cases in which a contract can be let at a firm price without the insertion of these provisions. Where this clause as to adjustment is included, a schedule of prices showing prices of material and rates of labour ruling at the date of the contract and on which the tender is based should be filled in. In Memorandum No. 10 reference is made to the arrangements with the Director of Building Materials Supply for the supply of building materials in connection with State-aided Housing Schemes, and it is stated that the Government's object in establishing the Department was to provide employment for men demobilized from the Army and Munition Works and to stimulate production of building materials. Both of these objects having been attained, contractors for housing schemes are advised, as far as possible, to arrange for the supply of materials wholly or in part otherwise than through the Director of Building Materials Supply, so far as this can be done without increasing cost. Local authorities and public utility societies when issuing invitations to tender are requested to draw particular attention to the provision in the Schedule of Prices enabling contractors themselves to arrange for the supply and delivery of materials without recourse to the Director of Building Materials Supply.

**Ministry of Health's Arrangement with House-Builders.**

Sir James Carmichael, Director-General of Housing, speaking at the formal opening of the newly formed Timber Exchange on the 6th inst., and referring to the National Housing Scheme, mentioned that several months ago he set up a Committee to consider the question of economy, and the Committee had already approved of twelve or fourteen new methods of cottage construction - not absolutely new, but new so far as the by-laws were concerned. In several cases there was an entire absence of timber, except for joinery purposes; and many firms were prepared to enter into contracts for the erection of such houses in thousands throughout the country, and at prices varying from £550 upwards. He would like to correct a common fallacy that the Ministry of Health had approved schemes of £1,000 and £1,200 per cottage. The average approved price per cottage up to last week was £707. At the same time, it must be

frankly admitted that the supply of houses by the local authorities had been very disappointing. Their progress was much too slow. Generally speaking, local authorities did not give their committees full power to act: many of them, through lethargy, were still only at the early stages of their schemes; and as there was no incentive to economy on the part of the local authorities, many of their architects had put up extravagant schemes which caused delay before they could be cut down and approved. In the Housing Act a provision was made so that local authorities could buy houses as well as build them. In order to develop this section of the Act, the house builders about a month ago had appointed a committee to assist the Ministry of Health in drawing up a working arrangement by which these builders, who had built over 90 per cent. of the houses in the past, should, if possible, be engaged to build approved houses and sell them to the local authorities. At a meeting held on the 4th inst. at the Ministry of Health this matter was further discussed, and an agreement arrived at. Many of these builders had estates where roads and sewers were already made, but where development was arrested because of the war. They were, he supposed, the largest consumers of timber in the past, and it was Dr. Addison's intention that their type of house should be used as a ready and valuable supplement, but only as a supplement, to the general scheme of house building now being carried out by the local authorities. By this means they hoped to get 100,000 houses much more quickly than by entirely relying on the local authorities.

**Housing and Town Planning Exhibition.**

Under the auspices of the Garden Cities and Town-Planning Association, a Housing and Town-Planning Exhibition is being held at the Whitechapel Art Gallery. Among the exhibits are the schemes prepared by local authorities under the Housing Act. Plans and lay-outs are on view, showing what has been done, and what may be done in the future. The Ministry of Health are co-operating with the Association in this section of the Exhibition, and models of approved houses are on view. Plans, lay-outs and photographs of war-time housing schemes occupy a large and important section. The Letchworth Garden City is illustrated, and photographs and plans of the second garden city at Welwyn are among the exhibits. Another section deals specially with town-planning and civic surveys. The work of public utility societies in the past is illustrated by means of plans and photographs, and schemes which public utility societies have in hand for future development are also shown. A section dealing specially with London shows the historic development of London and suggestions for future development. The foreign section includes exhibits from the United States, South America, France, Belgium, Holland, Norway, Italy, Australia and India. A series of lectures dealing with the London problem is in course of delivery at the Gallery by, amongst others, Prof. S. D. Ad-head [F.]; Mr. H. R. Aldridge; Mr. G. D. H. Cole; Mr. W. R. Davidge [A.]; Mr. W. Rees Jeffreys; and Capt. R. L. Reiss. At the lecture by Prof. Ad-head on "London Roads and Road Transport," on the 6th inst., the chair was taken by Mr. John W. Simpson, President R.I.B.A. Admission to the Exhibition and lectures is free.

**Art and the Community.**

The following series of lectures for Domestic Economy and Art Students and the general public are in course of

delivery at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, on Tuesdays, 5.30 to 6.45. :—

Part I. THE HOUSE.

Oct. 14.	Introduction: Types of Houses	S. B. Caulfield [F.], lecturer.
„ 23.	Planning and General Arrangement	
Nov. 11.	Fittings	
„ 25.	Decoration Visit	

Part II ITS FURNISHING.

1920.		
Jan. 20.	General	Charles Spooner [F] lecturer.
Feb. 3.	Types of Furniture	
„ 17.	„ „	
Mar. 2	Textiles (carpets, curtains, etc.). Luther Hooper, lecturer. Visit. Charles Spooner, lecturer.	

Part III. SMALL FURNISHINGS AND AMENITIES.

April 20.	Household Utensils.	S. B. Caulfield, lecturer.
May 4.	Dress Materials and Dress.	Luther Hooper, lecturer.
„ 18.	Urban and Rural Amenities.	S. B. Caulfield.
June 1.	Gardens	Charles Spooner, lecturer. Visit. S. B. Caulfield, lecturer.

Admission to the lectures is free. The date and time of visits will be announced.

Chadwick Public Lectures: Suburban Housing.

A lecture (illustrated by lantern slides) on "Some Problems of Suburban Housing," will be given by Capt. Reiss, F.R.Econ.S. (chairman of the Executive of the Garden Cities and Town-Planning Association), at Hampstead Central Library, Finchley Road, N.W., on Monday, 17th November, at 8 p.m. Sir William J. Collins, K.C.V.O., M.D., M.S., chairman of the Chadwick Trustees, will preside. Admission is free.

An Architect's First Business Flight.

To Mr. Paul Waterhouse belongs the distinction of being probably the first architect in this country to make the air passage from London across the Channel on a client's behalf. These are still early days for such professional excursions, and, with a view to recording the event in the JOURNAL, Mr. Waterhouse was asked for brief particulars of the voyage. He replies: "I expect there are other architects who have had occasion to fly on business, so I cannot attach much importance to an event which in any case will shortly become commonplace. But if you really wish to put on record the fact that architects, like other men of business or of art, can enjoy a professional journey overhead the facts are these. A client wanted me to go to Paris in quick time during the strike, and asked me if I would oblige by taking 'the upper route.' I very naturally seized the opportunity, and went. Hounslow to Le Bourget took 2 hours 55 minutes. The journey (in a De Havilland 16 machine) exceeds for smoothness and tranquillity any locomotion I have ever experienced, though of course it is noisy, with a perpetual and rather restful noise. I made a half-inch scale section of the cabin *en route*. I also slept. My impressions of the voyage were, I suppose, the same as those of most 'first-flighters,' and need not be communicated.

What struck me most were the sight of the Channel as looked down upon from 8,000 feet—a sight to which I can attach no adjective but 'poetic'—and the ancient majesty of France. Abbeville and Beauvais and the woods and fields between them were things not of to-day but of the Middle Ages."

Honan's Scholarship: Liverpool Architectural Society.

Honan's Scholarship, an Annual Travelling Scholarship of the value of £50, is open to members of the Liverpool Architectural Society (Incorporated) under the age of thirty years (in computing age the time spent in war service may be deducted). The Scholarship for 1920 will be awarded for the best Essay on the Architectural Work of one of the following architects, to be selected by the competitor—viz.: John Vanbrugh, Sir Christopher Wren or Inigo Jones. The Essay to be illustrated by pen-and-ink sketches, and of an approximate length of 5,000 words. The successful candidate will be required to submit an outline of his proposed tour for the approval of the Council, who will pay the £50 in two instalments.

Competing Essays must be sent to Mr. Richard Holt, Hon. Sec. Liverpool Architectural Society, at 8, Victoria Street, Liverpool, on or before the 31st January 1920.

Important Additions to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The Report for the year 1916 on the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Bethnal Green Museum, publication of which, together with later Reports was suspended during the War, has now been published. Sir Cecil H. Smith, Director and Secretary of the Museum, reports that in the Department of Architecture and Sculpture the arrival from the Architectural Museum in Tufton Street of a large collection of original works of art and plaster casts of architectural details, given by the Architectural Association, made it necessary to close certain parts of the East Hall and East Courts until the casts could be cleaned, restored and catalogued, and arrangements made for their exhibition. This has now been done and the majority are exhibited in Room 8. The works number over one hundred original works in marble and stone, all of English origin, besides some thousands of casts. Hitherto English architecture and sculpture have been represented in this Museum by a few examples only, but through this generous gift it is now possible to illustrate all the more important styles which developed in this country; the finest of them all—viz., the thirteenth century—being specially well represented. The gift also included fragments of fifteenth century bench-ends from English churches, and a few examples of Indian sculpture.

A carved walnut chair of the period of William and Mary, and a coverlet embroidered with gold thread and coloured silks on a ground of blue velvet. Persian work of the eighteenth century, were presented by H.R.H. Princess Louise.

A canopied bedstead from Boughton House, Northamptonshire, said to have been made on the occasion of the visit of William III. to that house in 1694, was presented by the Duke of Buccleuch, and is in the Department of Woodwork. Another important gift to this Department was made by Mr. Frank Green, who presented over twenty interesting examples of English furniture belonging mostly to late in the seventeenth century or early in the eighteenth.

Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society.

Mr. W. G. Watkins [F.], President of the Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society, in the course of his

address at the opening meeting of the Session, referred to the cry of economy which was being raised throughout the land, and asked how the architectural profession was going to meet this cry. Met in the proper spirit, he conceived that it might actually be a benefit for architecture. Simplicity, combined with pleasant form and shapely outlines, was more effective than a quantity of detail; good proportions, sound construction, and right choice of material were much to be preferred to a superabundance of ornament, which did not always adorn, but often merely seemed to disturb the restfulness and breadth of simple wall space. In this connection, he would not be sorry if the high cost of coal, and consequently the increased cost of terra-cotta, resulted in restricting its use, and brought stone into its own again. Terra-cotta provided a great temptation for over-elaboration and excessive ornamentation; its introduction had been more detrimental than beneficial to architecture, and there were very few buildings in the country where it was used upon which one could look with real pleasure. Again, if they were to build economically, were they always personally satisfied that they had prepared the most economical plan for the building entrusted to them? By economical he did not mean cutting every room or apartment down to the absolute minimum in size, but were they rightly distributed so as to ensure the greatest economy in the management or running of the building, be it a house, a factory, or a commercial building? The exercise of their profession was a social service just as should be every business in the country; every building they planned which was adapted to the most efficient and economical working they were adding to the wealth of the nation, whilst every badly-planned and ill-designed building was dissipating it. It had often occurred to him when going through many old factories, warehouses, and commercial buildings that there was an enormous wastage of man-power to the nation through manufacturing and handling goods and carrying on businesses under such conditions, and not only a wastage of man-power, but a direct cash loss and lower production than there would be if carried on in modern, well-planned and well-equipped buildings.

Touching the question of registration, Mr. Watkins recalled that the position at the outbreak of the war was that the attempt to proceed by legislation, partly owing to the failure of negotiations with the Society of Architects, had been abandoned, and the general body of members of the Royal Institute had approved the principles of a new Charter, which was to empower the R.I.B.A. to set up a Register of Architects. Under this Charter, the Corporate members of the Royal Institute were to be called "Chartered Architects," and the others "Registered Architects," but the defect of procedure by charter seemed to him to be that it was entirely a voluntary measure, and might fail if members of the profession outside the R.I.B.A. did not register. The new Council was pledged to make a final effort to establish the unity of the profession, or in other words, to try to arrive at an agreement with the Society of Architects. Without such an agreement, it appeared to be useless to attempt to proceed by legislation, and presumably they should have to fall back on procedure by Charter. As the question of registration was of such urgent and vital importance, he proposed to devote their next meeting to its consideration.

Speaking of the new scale of charges, with its increased fees for small works, and the general rise from 5 to 6 per cent., Mr. Watkins said it was a matter for serious consideration whether they in the provinces would be able to obtain the new scale. It was idle to deny that as a result of the war the relative rewards of brain power and muscular power had been considerably changed to the disadvantage of the former; architects, therefore, had a considerable claim to increased emoluments, if they could get them, and he believed that sooner or later the brain worker must receive more adequate recompense. He regretted that in the new scale no difference had been made between plan-

natory and warehouse work, and other buildings entailing a great amount of artistic and careful details. In his opinion, the economical planning and designing of industrial buildings was a branch of work in which it was to the nation's advantage that architects should be employed, and to attempt to get such a scale as 6 per cent. would almost certainly throw such work into other hands.

#### Architects' Assistants.

At a recent meeting of the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union, Captain R. G. Lewellyn-Evans, chairman of the Metropolitan Executive Committee, stated that although the Union had only been in existence for some six months the membership numbered several hundreds. Certain qualifications for membership had been laid down to ensure that members of the Union would be fully qualified. Probationers would be eligible at a reduced fee for the first five years. Members were working for the protection of their interests, and they did not intend that extremists should capture the movement. Their chief aim was the abolition of the underpaid and under-trained assistant; and they also desired to institute a system of scholarships, such as that of the Architectural Association, to secure open references and form an up-to-date employment bureau, and to assist members in the execution of private commissions and to start in practice. They also required that a minimum wage for the profession should be fixed, the chief reason, in the speaker's opinion, being to ensure that they should no longer be exploited by ignorant Urban District Councils and others. The Union had the sympathy of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Society of Architects, the Architectural Association, and the Surveyors' Institution. Delegates would shortly be appointed to meet representatives of the Royal Institute, and ten delegates were being sent to the conference of the Professional Workers' Federation. They had also been promised Parliamentary support in any capacity in which it might be required. Branches had been formed at Liverpool, Birmingham, and Norwich for co-operation with the London branch. Numbers of local secretaries had been co-opted in various districts, and numerous letters, mostly stating cases of injustice, had been received from them. A letter had also been received from a working carpenter, expressing sympathy with the local architectural assistants, who, to his surprise, received less wages than he did.

Mr. C. McLachlan [A.], Hon. Secretary of the Union, announces that as many assistants are unable to join through lack of personal acquaintanceship with members who would propose them, it has been decided for the present to dispense with the formality.

#### R.E. Institute.

The R.E. Institute has been established for the dissemination of professional information to the Officers of the Corps of Royal Engineers, and for historical, scientific, and educational purposes. Membership is open to all Officers of the Royal Engineers, R.E. Special Reserve, and Territorial Units, all temporarily Commissioned Officers of R.E., and Officers of Overseas Engineer Corps. Officers may continue membership after leaving the service, paying subscriptions at the rate for the rank held by them on retirement. Members will receive copies of all regular and other special publications of the Institute.

The Secretary will supply any Books, Maps, Instruments, etc., on the market at the lowest possible terms to members requiring them, and will be at all times willing to render

help in this direction, or in obtaining technical information of a non-confidential nature on application from members.

The Entrance Subscription for members is £1, and the Annual Subscription as follows:—General Officers, Colonels, and Lt-Colonels, 30s.; Majors, 25s.; Captains, 20s.; Lieuts., 2nd Lieuts., and Quartermasters, 15s.

The R.E. Libraries include the Headquarters and Circulating Library at the Horse Guards, Whitehall, London, the Library at the S.M.E. Chatham, and Libraries at some out-stations. The membership is the same as for the R.E. Institute. The Subscription is 15s. per annum; no entrance fee.

#### Victoria and Albert Museum.

The Modern Section of the War Memorials Exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum is now closed. Some of the exhibits in this Section have been transferred to the War Memorials Exhibition now being held at Burlington House. The Retrospective Section will remain open for the present.

#### "Specification."

At the present time, when the acute dearth of dwellings for the people has brought all matters relating to building very prominently before the notice of the public, the forthcoming issue of *Specification*, of which Mr. Frederick Chatterton [F.] is the newly appointed editor, will be looked for with more than usual interest. It will contain, together with much technical matter of direct value to architects, surveyors and municipal engineers, several specially contributed articles on a variety of subjects, such as "The Progress of the National Housing Movement," "Bungalows," and "Domestic Cooking on Oil Stoves."

#### Professional Notices.

Mr. H. P. Burke Downing [F.] has been appointed Diocesan Surveyor for Southwark.

Mr. Edward Meredith [A.], 9 Woodville Road, Golder's Green, has entered into partnership with Mr. F. A. Edwards, architect, of 17 Houghton Street, Kingsway. Their practice as architects and surveyors will be carried on under the style of Messrs. Meredith & Edwards, at 17 Houghton Street, Kingsway, W.C.2.

Mr. John Coleridge [F.] and Mr. Paul Coleridge [A.], of 14 North Audley Street, have entered into partnership with Mr. C. W. Short, Jr., of 25 West 44th Street, New York City, U.S.A. Their practice will be carried on at both addresses.

#### Appointments open and wanted.

BAGHDAD.—Wanted, a young architect [A.R.I.B.A.], under 30, unmarried, to go out to Baghdad for Cantonment work and hotel construction. Should be well up in concrete and steel construction. Salary about £600 per annum; quarters found; passage paid. Applicants to call or write, Messrs. Metcalf & Greig, Imperial Buildings, 56 Kingsway, W.C.

HONG KONG.—A well-known firm of Hong Kong architects require the services of a highly competent architectural designer and draughtsman [A.R.I.B.A.]. Age 27-33. Salary by arrangement. Excellent prospects for a man of ability.—Reply, "M. W." c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street.

ARCHITECT, just returned from Canada—with very large experience in Franco-American hollow tile and rapid construction methods of building—is open to an immediate engagement.—Address: "B." c/o The Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

## MINUTES.

At the First General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Thursday, 4th November, 1919, at 8.30 p.m.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 97 Fellows (including 17 members of the Council); 84 Associates (including 4 members of the Council); 5 Hon. Associates; 26 Licentiates; and numerous visitors.—The Minutes of the meeting held 23rd June, 1919, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary read a Message from the King, expressing His Majesty's confidence that the architectural profession would do full justice to the great responsibilities that rest upon them in the Nation's work of reconstruction.

The President delivered the INAUGURAL ADDRESS of the Session.

On the motion of the American Ambassador, seconded by the President of the Royal Academy, a vote of thanks was passed to the President by acclamation.

The President having briefly responded, the proceedings terminated at 10 p.m.

#### Books received.

UNKNOWN LONDON. By Walter George BOWLER. With 17 illustrations. So Lond 1919. 6s. 6d. net. (John Lane, The Bodley Head.)  
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION. A Text-book on the Principles and Details of Modern Construction for the use of Students and Practical Men. Advanced Course. By Charles F. and George A. Mitchell. 9th ed. revised and enlarged. So Lond 1919. 19s. 6d. net. (B.T. Batstone Ltd.)  
HOW TO ESTIMATE. Being the analysis of Builders' Prices. By John T. R. A. 4th ed. revised and enlarged. With over 500 illustrations. So Lond 1919. 10s. 6d. net. (B.T. Batstone, 94 High Holborn.)  
THE INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL FOR THE BUILDING INDUSTRY. The story of a revolution in industrial development (The Garton Foundation). So Lond 1919. 1s. net. (Horsfall & Sons, 44-47 St. Martin's Lane.)  
DETAIL DESIGN IN REINFORCED CONCRETE. With special reference to the requirements of the Reinforced Concrete Regulations of the London County Council. By Everett Andrews, B.Sc. Eng. With numerous illustrations. So Lond 1919. 6s. net. (James S. Lynn & Co. Ltd., 20 Essex Street, Strand.)

## NOTICES.

THE SECOND GENERAL MEETING (ORDINARY) of the Session 1919-20 will be held MONDAY, 17th NOVEMBER, 1919, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held 4th November; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the following Paper:—

#### THE PROBLEMS OF LONDON HOUSING.

By W. R. DAVIDGE (C), Housing Commissioner for the London Area.

#### Scale of Professional Charges, Clause 9.

At the General Meeting (Business) to be held Monday, 1st December, the Chairman will move the amendment of Clause 9 of the Scale of Professional Charges, in order to bring it into conformity with the "Scale of Architects' Fees for Housing Schemes" recently agreed between the Royal Institute and the various Government Departments concerned. This latter scale was published in the JOURNAL for September, p. 263.

#### Election of Members.

The election of Members arranged for the 1st December has been postponed to the 5th January, 1920. The nominations for this election will be announced at the meeting of the 1st December, and published in the following issue of the JOURNAL.



OLD FOUNTAIN, SALONICA.

## AN ARCHITECT'S WAR EXPERIENCES IN FRANCE AND THE BALKANS.

By EDWARD WARREN, F.S.A. [F.], Major, Royal Serbian Army.

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 16th June, 1919.

UP to August the 4th, 1914, I had never particularly bothered about my age, and had more or less taken it for granted that I was much the same age as other people, but on the morning of the 5th I realised that I was considerably older than some, a realisation probably common to a few other members of this Institute. Like many of my friends, I at once rejoined, as a veteran, my old corps, the Inns of Court Rifles, and also at once sent in my name and, as it seemed to me, rather conspicuous qualifications for military service of the constructive order, to the War Office. A very polite and evasive reply was all I obtained from the War Office. The Reserve Corps, however—the I.C.R.C.—kept me busy. We drilled—how we drilled!—at the Temple, early and late, in the gardens in the autumn, and on the gravel of the dark courts in the gloom of late winter afternoons. We route-marched on Saturdays, we billeted in Surrey villages, and scored the country side with trenches, wielding our spades and picks with elderly zeal and energy. In the interludes of these employments I carried on my practice for a while—through the first winter of the war, and far on into 1915. All my robust, young and capable staff, of course, had gone, and most of my work was closed down, but some remained that had to be finished, and through those intolerable early months of '15, I stuck it out in London, feeling, I fear, the most hideous envy of those who marched away. At last, in September of 1915, I got clear, and since the War Office didn't seem to have a use for me, I volunteered for the Red Cross, and, as a "gentleman orderly" of the Franco-British "Croix Rouge Française," I went straight out to the temporary military hospital at Arc-en-Barrois.

This hospital of some 150 beds, established in the château and grounds of the Duc de Penthièvre, and in the hospice of a convent in the little town of Arc, near Chaumont, I found full of French wounded, and in a high state of activity. My experiences there were very novel to me. I had had a good deal to do with the planning and building of permanent hospitals before the war, and was quite familiar, theoretically, with hospital systems and hierarchies, but when I plunged into the active work of a hospital as a humble participant, I felt, just at first, a new boy—with a vengeance. The other orderlies varied in age, character and profession—in age, from a cheerful youth of 20 or thereabouts, to a

mature ex-Colonel of Militia. There was one other architect and member of this Institute, Edmund Fisher, who was amongst the hardest-working and most devoted of a conspicuously hard-working and devoted band, who subsequently got a commission in the Field Artillery and, to my intense regret, died last year. The chief orderly was the well-known painter, Wilfred de Glehn, now Captain R.A. This gentleman fulfilled an extraordinary number of functions with wonderful competence and with unfailing courtesy, sympathy, and good nature. He carried stretchers with the rest of us, he drove an ambulance him-self, and took charge of our midnight convoys to the distant station to fetch in batches of wounded men, fresh from the battlefields of the Argonne. He had acquired a knowledge of the mechanism and manipulation of the X-ray apparatus, and the photographic work connected with it, and ran the whole affair. He assisted, if required, in the operating theatre, and readily turned his hand to any job that wanted doing, never seeming to be tired or bored, knowing every patient by name, and always having a cheery or sympathetic word for everybody. In the midst of all his occupations, he could and did find time for jovial games of cards amidst the beds of the quasi-convalescents, and his perfect command of the French language and unvarying geniality gave him a popularity and an influence with these poor battered soldiers that kept alive that spirit of cheerful optimism which is one of the first essentials of a well-run hospital.

I had to begin at the beginning and to do whatever was demanded of me, or seemed to be required, as best I could—and my functions were various. The day, if it was fine, always began with carrying out patients on stretchers from the various wards, on the ground and upper floors of the château, into the garden under the big trees and shelters, and establishing them in groups with their cards and books and cigarettes as much as possible according to their fancy. This, especially when the day was very fine, and the batches large, was at first rather hard work—some of the men were heavy, and the stone stairs of the château steep and hard. But one soon got used to it, and acquired “rowing hands” from the strain and friction of the stretcher handles. The patients established in the garden, there were all sorts of things to be done—floor-scrubbing, bed-making, sweeping out, tidying up, carrying sacks of clothing, mattresses, etc., to the disinfecter or back again, and at midday and at six o'clock the meals to be carried to the wards or into the garden. For a couple of weeks I was butler and had charge of the cellars, filling the wine cans from the great casks—for every French soldier looks for his allowance of “Pinard” as a matter of course. The cans were bigger or smaller according to the size of the wards—big ones for the Salles Joffre, Kitchener, Foch and French, smaller for Gallieni and Ponthièvre, but quite heavy to carry two or three at a time up spiral stone staircases and along passages. Occasionally, in the afternoon, especially if it was wet and no one to be carried into or out of the garden, I was able to do rough carpentry in a workshop in the cellars, and this was a delightful change. I made tables and bedside cupboards, etc., out of Benger's Food boxes and any odd materials I could find, and neatly planed and covered the tops with white American cloth. These were much sought after by the Sisters, who liked to smarten and furnish their wards. The day was usually from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and pretty full at that. Occasionally there were calls for the ambulance service to meet the night trains eight miles away, to evacuate convalescents and bring in fresh patients. This was always a popular service, though a very chilly one as the autumn crept on towards winter.

Starting out about 10.30, and running in line of three or four cars, the flaring lamps shining on sleeping white villages and theatrical looking trees, we got to the station for the 11 something train that seldom came in before midnight, and frequently not much before 2 next morning. After seeing our *evacués* off with tremendous hand-shakings, and carefully ranging and lifting into the ambulances the poor bandaged new arrivals on their blood-stained stretchers, we rolled gently back through icy mists to the hospital, carried the patients to their wards, and then supped genially by the fire in the great kitchen of the château, and so to bed—generally about 3 a.m.

Such was the life, varied for me now and then by assistance in the operating theatre, which was something of a trial, but quite endurable after the first time, by preferable employment in the erection

of little wooden buildings, excursions to the timber merchants to choose stuff, or even to Chaumont for ironmongery, American cloth, and drugs; or an occasional walk in the forests of the château, where there were deer and boars. One most interesting trip in a car was a conspicuous event. It was a business journey to Bar-le-Duc (a delightfully architectural town I knew of old), passing through several devastated towns and villages, and getting close to the French front, whose guns were heard constantly sixty miles away at Arc. I went as draughtsman to make notes of X-ray tables and the like. My stay at Arc was cut short by a recall to England on urgent affairs, and I returned before December. This brief participation in the active work of a war hospital made a great impression upon me—on the whole a cheery one, in spite of much inevitable sadness and ugliness. I came away with a greatly increased respect for the skilled intelligence and kindness of doctors and of nurses for their devoted patience and energy: and as to the French soldiers who were our patients, I shall never lose my profound admiration for the immortal courage and immortal gaiety of France as shown by these poor gallant fellows, with many of whom I became fast friends, and with one or two of whom I have not ceased to correspond.

A short winter in England enabled me to wind up my affairs, and by the beginning of February, '16, I felt ready for another and a larger venture. I was again making approaches to the War Office, when a sudden and unexpected call on the telephone suggested my going out at once to Corfu to find a site for, and establish and build up, a temporary hospital for the Serbian Army, large contingents of which were then arriving from Montenegrin and Albanian ports after the terrible winter retreat over the mountains. After 24 hours' deliberation I accepted the charge, and in nine days' time was off again under the Red Cross, but in the service of the Serbian Relief Fund this time, with a small advanced guard of doctors and nurses, for that beautiful island which I had twice previously visited for a few hours on a peaceable trip to and from Greece.

We got to Brindisi, *via* Paris and the Mont Cenis, Turin and Bologna, uneventfully. At Brindisi we were actually condemned by stress of weather and hostile submarines to spend nine dreary days.

This ancient Roman port, when once its few interesting Roman relics and its little old church have been inspected, is not an engaging town, and a chill wind and grey skies combined, with hope deferred, to make our hearts rather sick. It was here, however, that I first came into contact with the Serbian Army, in the persons of a few officers, being, indeed, met at the station on arrival by a genial and specially deputed colonel. After constant visits to the British Consulate and the British and French "Commandants de la Place," after much telegraphing to London, and after the purchase of stores, and of a preliminary batch of hospital bedsteads, and after several false alarms as to sudden departure, we were finally, and at short notice, bundled aboard a small French steamer, whose sole designation caused such immense amusement and delight to all British sailors and soldiers in the port that explanations of this hilarity were frequently demanded by the French, and were not very easy to give. It consisted in the two letters "B.F." painted conspicuously on her bows. In this undesirable



ANGLO-FRENCH TEMPORARY HOSPITAL, CHÂTEAU, ARC-EN-BARROIS (1915)



craft, her little saloon packed with stout Serbian colonels and majors, with a French officer or two, and several doctors and nurses, we made our perilous way on a fine, still, dangerously moonlit night to Corfu. I reposed as best I could on a pile of baggage on the fore hatch. It was very cold, and when we landed next morning in brilliant sunshine on that beautiful island, I found I had so far lost my voice as to be reduced to barely audible and very husky whispers with which to report to H.B.M.'s Consul. The Consul, however, accepted us, whispers and all, in a friendly and most hospitable manner which reflected credit on himself and his country. We were soon installed in rooms, and I at once began, mostly in husky French, my enquiries as to the needs of the Serbian Army, and of the possibilities of getting a hospital site, preferably with some buildings. I made the acquaintance of the French General in Command, and of the heads of the French and Serbian Army medical services, and within a few days was scouring the country in military motor-cars in search of a site.

The weather, after the glorious summer-like day of our arrival, had turned stormy, wet, and relatively chill. The gloom of the atmospheric conditions heightened, if possible, the gloom of the terribly sad and depressing sights that met me at every turn, as soon as the town, with its smart crowds

of promenading officers, Serbian and Greek, in new uniforms, its cafés and its shops, was left behind. A mile or two out, and one plunged into a beautiful country indeed, of hills and olive groves, orange and lemon trees, with the blue sea lapping its shores, the Corfu Mountains to west and north, and the great craggy ridges of Albania across the bay, but a country whose natural charm was horribly marred by the miserable, squalid, muddy camps of the wasted, starved and sorrow-stricken Serbian Army, which had been ferried, and was still being ferried, from the coasts to the north, chiefly in British ships to find refuge, rest, and recovery in Corfu.

After rejection of many offered positions, for many and various reasons—no water or bad water, no roads or bad roads, malarial neighbourhood or unsuitable soil—we struck at last upon an excellent site, a fairly large "villa," with good barns and outbuildings and wide, well-sheltered grounds, with plenty of



CORAGGIO, CORFU. HOSPITAL DESTROYER  
BUILT BY SERBS AND LINED WITH MUD  
BRICKS MADE BY THEM (MAY 1916)

shady olive trees, close to the sea. Here the hospital, consisting of French demountable huts and tents, was soon put up: doctors and nurses arrived, and patients rapidly filled the extemporised wards. It fulfilled its duties for five months, and then the Serbian Army, restored, reclothed, rearmed, and thoroughly set up again, was shipped over to Salonica to take part in the reconquest of its native land. We followed in September of 1916—84 people, British and Serbian, and with some 300 tons of baggage and tents. We were encamped for some two months on the outskirts of Salonica, while my hunt for a site began again. After long and difficult journeys, in Ford cars, over hundreds of miles of atrocious roads, and inspecting all sorts of impossible spots, I decided upon the sandy plain of Sorovich, a dilapidated war-worn little Turkish town on the railway between Salonica and Monastir, on the shore of the little lake of Petrsko, and some 1,800 feet above the sea.

Here I commandeered an old stone Turkish warehouse or guardhouse, standing on the wide common, where in peace-time the local fairs were wont to be held, and here we quickly reconstituted our hospital, and began receiving patients, mostly wounded men straight from the Serbian front, a few miles away in the mountains, long before it was really ready. It was soon in shape, however, and, temporary as it was, consisting entirely of tents and such huts as we could improvise, it was destined to last a full year, though at first we lived in constant expectation of moving on to Monastir.

We members of the Staff of the Sixth Hospital Unit of the Serbian Relief Fund, who, since the early summer of 1916, had kept Monastir in steady mental focus, as our first destination on Serbian



territory, and who, from the little mountain-girt plains of Sorovich, had daily listened for many weeks to the thunder of the Allied guns, twenty miles off to the north-west, had listened also with quiet incredulity to constant rumours of the fall—imminent, and even actual—of the fated town. We gazed with longing, from neighbouring hilltops, at its slim white minarets, gleaming in the Macedonian sunshine, splendid even in November. Suddenly, in the third week of that month, rumour hardened into credible report. The Allied artillery was dominating the town, the enemy was moving out. By Saturday in that week uncertainty, but of an optimistic order, still lingered, and, on the afternoon of Sunday, the 19th, was finally and gloriously dispelled. The enemy had moved out, bag and baggage, and was trekking northward on the Prilep Road.

A cheery lieutenant of the A.S.C. rolled up to our dilapidated front steps in one of those queer-looking little two-seaters compounded of a shabby old chassis with precarious-looking boxes somehow attached to it, which are the delight of British subalterns, to give us, over our hospital tea-cups, the great news at first hand.

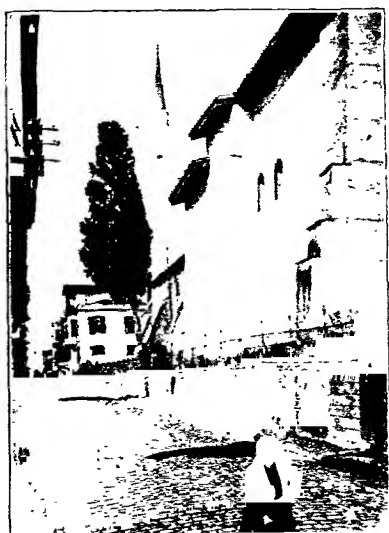
He had actually been in the town. Greatly daring, and to win a bet, as it seemed, he had dashed into Monastir in the misty twilight of early morning, had made a rapid circuit of the nearer streets, and dashed out again, though, at that hour, the Germans and Bulgars were by no means clear of the town. They marched out finally about 8 a.m., thus evacuating Monastir upon the exact anniversary of their entry in '15.

The good news decided us: we, too, would go to Monastir, and early on Monday morning we started, our young Serbian engineer and myself, piloted by a youthful and rather exuberant Serbian chauffeur, in one of our light ambulance cars. The day was beautiful, but the roads, thanks to their intrinsically Macedonian qualities, to haphazard military patchings, and to recent rains, were muddy and deplorable. Within the first two miles and well within sight of the hospital we came to grief. Perceiving a long convoy of heavy French lorries approaching us, and impatient of waiting at the roadside to pass them, our impetuous young chauffeur turned incontinently off the road and charged on to the level meadow alongside, with the intention of rejoining the road further on. We were very soon badly bogged, completely stuck in soft mud, and after an hour of frantic and fruitless efforts at extrication we had become an exasperated, over-heated and mud-spattered trio. Happily for us, a cheerful Serbian captain in command of a squad of road-repairing Bulgarian prisoners, armed with picks and shovels, intervened, and after a good deal of digging, pushing, pulling and shouting, our unlucky vehicle bumped back on to the road, bursting a tube in the process. Thanks and cigarettes to the captain and a few drachmas to his brown-faced, brown-uniformed, sturdy Bulgars, closed this episode, but we were by no means out of our troubles. Our scatterbrained driver, having provided himself with French tubes and an American pump that didn't fit their valves, we were obliged, after further and exasperating efforts, and the trial of tube upon tube, to send the lame duck home, and to wait, with what patience we might, the arrival of an efficient substitute from the hospital. Sandwiches and cigarettes, on a stone heap, helped to beguile the tedium of the wait, and at last the exuberant Dushan bowled up in the substitute, and at somewhere near noon we actually got under way and trundled off for the Pass, which is the southern gate to the great plain of Monastir.

We forged bravely uphill, past the shattered and twisted railway viaduct, destroyed by the enemy in the previous summer, but since adroitly circumvented by French engineers, up and round the shoulders of the foothills, through a wild Scotch-looking country, glancing back at the fine view of the little blue lake of Petrsko and red-roofed, white-walled Sorovich, with its suburb of tents, up and up till the road wound into a long valley delivered over to the temporary chaos of road mending. We bumped over beds of freshly-laid boulders, scattered and squelched along glutinous rats, and splashed through pools and morasses of mud, threading our way amongst the picturesque gangs of Macedonian roadmakers, wearing red fezzes or little black caps, embroidered shirts, sashes generally red, long-skirted dark cloth tunics and cross-gartered or putteed hose, and working under the alert tutelage of

French "non-coms." We overtook convoys of heavy motor lorries—British and French—thundering, lurching giants difficult to pass in the narrow rutty way, and strings of carts and pack animals, all engaged in the task of conveying much-needed stores to the hungry town.

As we debouched on the plain and joined the great road from Salonica, near the pretty little town of Banitza, traffic intensified. Lorries always, and more lorries, ambulance cars, baggage waggons, travelling kitchens, fur-coated French officers in smart red or blue képis, crammed into Lurrying "touristes" or mounted on fine but sometimes fidgetty chargers: infantry, cavalry and artillery: humble troops of native pedestrians driving heavily-laden little thin-legged ponies almost smothered in bulging bundles—a strange processional melley of races, French, Serbs, Turks, Jews and Albanians, hurrying along the wide, muddy road in the open plain under the fitful November sky and congesting itself terribly into masses of struggling, gesticulating, but mostly good-humoured men, braying mephitic motors, and restive animals, in the narrow and tortuous streets and on the narrower and recently strengthened bridges of the villages. At the bridges, indeed, most of the mounted men, and some of the vehicles, splashed and floundered through the fords alongside.



ST. DEMETRIUS, SALONICA

The congestion was formidable at Verbeni, whose battered dwellings, with plastered walls shell-smashed and shrapnel-pitted, looked down from broken casements upon a struggling concourse of men, animals and engines. It was still more formidable at Negochani, a big village which ages ago took every precaution against rapid traffic, encroaching upon the roadway with courts and yards and forming a regular bent elbow of a corner near the narrow bridge that spans its little shallow river. Even more riddled and shattered than neighbour Verbeni, Negochani still valiantly lives and lifts its battered belfry high in air miraculously upon its fearfully attenuated base. Here energetic and creditably patient French officers and sergeants controlled the traffic with cheeriness and London-like efficiency. This task was the easier, however, for the fact that its tide was nearly all in one direction, towards Monastir; there was little coming down. It took us at least half-an-hour to make the two or three hundred yards of churned mud presented by the main street of Negochani.

Once out upon the broad, flat, and fairly straight road again, though still in a rumbling and hooting procession, we made fair travelling, and finally shaking off the lumbering lorries and slow-paced trail of horses, mules and men, we forged ahead and trundled on merrily in the company of smart képis and fur collars.

Soon the white minarets and the domes and red roofs of Monastir rose into clear view against their background of green foothills and grey-blue mountains. The town fills the widening mouth of a funnel-like valley, and has rather the effect of having been poured from a scoop so as to overflow a little on to the plain, while scattered buildings adhere like casual white splashes to the steep sides.

We ran in over the last stone bridge, passing on our right the broken railway and the shattered station, then, on our left, and facing a wide green common, the huge, roofless, burnt-out cavalry barracks, plastered and pink-washed, and found ourselves in the town and entering the long, narrow street of King Peter, immediately behind the imposing red-banded "brass hats" of two British staff officers. Monastir was all out on its pavements and door-steps to watch and welcome with mild acclamations and respectful hand-clappings the friendly stream of entering Allies, and our conspicuous red cross, on its big white disc, brought us a continuous ovation as we bumped slowly over the cobblestones.

A smiling youth of seventeen or eighteen, overhearing our enquiries for the Prefecture, hailed us

in quaint but serviceable English, and, immediately volunteering as our guide, leapt in beside the chauffeur, and at once began a voluble conversation in Serbian, interpolating the sudden and most necessary directions as to the extraordinarily sinuous and complicated route. We wobbled slowly round almost impossible corners, and crawled along narrow streets where we seemed a very tight fit, and where kindly and applausive citizens obligingly flattened themselves into doorways, waving us welcome as we lumbered by.

Our first impression of Monastir from within was distinctly that of a town of Western rather than Eastern type, though the Turkish houses with almost windowless ground floors and boldly overhanging upper storeys of timber and plaster, supported on wooden brackets, and pierced with latticed windows, are as resolute of the long Turkish dominance as are the domed white mosques with their slim, soaring minarets. Interspersed with such Oriental vestiges, and forming the greater part of the Southern and more modern quarter, are many buildings, public and private, of distinctly French influence. There are prosperous-looking, white freestone-fronted houses, protected by walled forecourts, pleasantly provided with trees and shrubs, large and lofty many-windowed schools, with great play-yards, banks and offices, all very much akin in effect to buildings of similar purpose in provincial towns of Northern France. When, however, we emerged upon the rough stone-paved quays that border the rapidly-flowing stream of the Dragor and are connected by little rough wooden bridges, we got a new impression vividly local and charming.

Especially charming in the late afternoon sunlight of this autumn day, the broad open space afforded by the twin quays and the rushing river, flanked by low irregular buildings, interspersed with trees, overlooked on three sides by the great mountain walls, and thronged to-day by the rejoicing crowds. Men and women in the ordinary garb of Western bourgeois, or in the picturesque semi-Oriental varieties of Macedonian dress, young girls with dark uncovered locks going gaily arm in arm, and vociferous flocks of joyously scurrying excited children. A sprinkling of French and Serbian soldiery, all overcoated and capped in the "bleu d'horizon" of France, for the Serbs have been fitted out with French capotes and field-service caps—lent a military dash to the shifting medley. There was an air of decorous half-hearted fête, of semi-incredulous happiness in delivery from the year-long thralldom under Bulgar and German. There may well, however, have been a premonition of further suffering, for a still grimmer year of bombardment and ruin lay before the hapless town. At this very moment the sharp reports of the French "seventy-fives" crashed and reverberated over the town as Boche air scouts hovered round its out-skirts high in the clear light of the setting sun.

We drew up on the cobbled quay at the gates of the Prefecture, and alighting amidst an enthusiastic little crowd, were saluted by beaming Serbian sentries beneath a brave new tri-coloured Serbian flag, and escorted through a courtyard and up a broad stone staircase by welcoming officers and a volunteer escort of garrulous civilians who clattered up behind us, to a wide landing, crowded with citizens, old and young, and hazy with the smoke of past and present cigarettes. From behind a great pair of folding doors came the unmistakable sounds of a meeting. The Prefect and council were sitting, we were told. Our hesitation and suggestions of waiting were politely ignored, and a smartly uniformed young Kommesar instantly threw wide the doors and motioned us to enter. Mud-spattered and travel stained as we were, we hesitated to present ourselves before the august assembly that filled the square long-windowed room: but our entry created a sensation of an obviously flattering kind. The Prefect, a previous acquaintance of some months' standing, rose from his seat before a table on the central dais, on his right rose a group of staff officers, on his left the civilian members of council, and we were greeted literally with outstretched hands and with enthusiastic cries of welcome. As the first representative of Great Britain and as the first also of a hospital of any nationality to present himself in Monastir, our advent made an impression: and when, after congratulations to the Prefect and council, I stated our errand as the search for a building in which to establish our hospital, enthusiasm was redoubled. We were seated at once on the right and left hand of the Prefect, and

asked to excuse the continuance of public business. This did not last very long. One or two counsellors, rather gaunt and worn, rose to ask questions, and were answered: the Prefect made a final short statement, while we sat in the embrasure of a tall window, through which the level sunset rays illuminated the grey heads and intent faces, the black coats and the uniforms of the assembly, while the glass rattled and the room shook to the explosions of the French guns on the hills hard by.

The meeting over, we were entrusted to a most courteous gentleman, who took us at once to inspect a building thought possible for our hospital and situated in a rather narrow street. This we were obliged to declare after a short inspection quite impossible for our purposes. But the visit was amusing and interesting. The house, which had formerly embodied a restaurant, had been used apparently as quarters by the Germans, some of whom had executed with considerable spirit in colour on the whitewashed walls various fancy portraits of Hindenburg and other German generals and notabilities. These were probably not intended as caricatures, but were extremely naïve and funny in effect.

Not in the least disturbed by our rejection of the house as a possible hospital, but much gratified by our amusement over these drawings, our conductor promised us a far finer building for the morrow,

when we should be conducted by the Colonel Commandant de la Place in person, and led us off to inspect lodgings for the night. The first house we visited proved to be so satisfactory that we went no farther. Pleasantly placed with a wide outlook over the common, and possessing an ample court-yard of its own, the house, well built and European, was so clean and attractive and its inmates so kindly and hospitable that we recognised our luck, and at once took possession of a large, airy, well-furnished double-bedded room, thanked our guide, and began to prepare for ablutions in the enormous basins supplied to us, when the whole of the family party interrupted for a chat, bearing a bottle of liqueur and a tray of little glasses. There was Madame, a plump, dark-haired young woman conducting a fat little girl of 4 or 5; Monsieur, enormously tall and very thin, with sharp square shoulders from which depended a long, limp, flapping black overcoat, which, with a flat-brimmed bowler



SOROVICH SOME OF OUR PATIENTS (MARCH 1917).

hat, he wore during the whole of the séance; a kindly, elderly dame, whose relationship was stated to be that of a grandmother, presumably to the fat babe; and an extremely slender, diminutive, and most amiable old Turkish gentleman in a red fez, who seemed to be some sort of family connection, or at any rate an intimate lodger. Conversation with this gentleman was difficult on our part, as neither of us had any knowledge of Turkish or of Arabic, but on his part no difficulties seemed to be present, and he kept up an unceasing flow of talk with obvious enjoyment to himself. We managed to gather that he had spent some years in Egypt and had repeatedly seen "Lor Cromer."

The remainder of the company spoke freely in Serb to my Serbian companion. Darkness gathered, and our production of a full box of matches to assist in lighting the lamp led to exclamations of admiration and, of course, to our gift of the box and a general discussion of privations during enemy occupation. These were, to say the least of them, very irksome. Bread was terribly dear, milk almost non-existent, sugar 18 francs a kilo. The sweet highly-scented liqueur which was so hospitably pressed upon us, however, seemed to show that little luxuries somehow lingered, and the presence—subsequently discovered—of a dozen fat chickens in a wired pen in the courtyard showed that the enemy had left some resources behind.

The Bulgarians had marched off all the doctors, native or other, with their troops, and no hospital or medical service of any kind remained. Our hosts had not been positively molested by Germans or Bulgars, but had had members of both armies quartered upon them. They found the Germans better mannered and more reasonable than the Bulgars, who, they said, were frequently harsh and brutal.

The night was tranquil. No bombs or shells arrived in the town, but early next morning much more welcome arrivals were manifest, and coffee and milk with a little loaf of very good Bulgarian bread, costing two francs, appeared for breakfast.

Promptly at the appointed moment a smart, cheery Serbian Major called to make the excuses of the Commanant, who had just received notice of the coming of the Crown Prince and of an official Te Deum service in the Cathedral, and to help us in our quest for a hospital building.

Under this kindly convoy the quest speedily and successfully terminated, barely a stone's throw from our lodgings, in the Gymnase, which we found to be appropriate beyond all expectations. It is a large quadrangular structure plastered and ochre-washed externally, standing freely in open ground, with a pleasant flower garden and a large tree-planted court flanked by a long low range of kitchens, bath and laundry rooms, and a picturesque domed old Turkish Hamam standing detached by the gate. It contains also an internal court or garden with the inevitable central fountain basin. Its fine dimensions, its numerous large rooms, wide corridors, admirable lighting and ventilation, and great easy staircases, offered every reasonable facility for a hospital of from four to five hundred beds, and upon conditions transcendently superior to those of the make-shift war hospital we had at best expected to establish. Not the least valuable of its amenities are an abundant water supply from the hills hard by and the immense extent of well-lit basement rooms, or semi-subterranean cellars, which were destined, as subsequent events ordained, to fulfil the most important functions.

We at once stated our extreme satisfaction, and our tenancy was immediately secured by a writing attached to the great entrance and announcing reservation to the use of the Serbian Relief Fund Hospital. A company of Serbian infantry were already in temporary occupation, and sentries were placed at the doors. Feeling thus confirmed in the possession of our building and secure against invasion by others of the competing Allies, for the town had been quartered between the French, Italians, Russians and Serbs, who were all seeking temporary barracks, our Major undertaking to hold the house against all comers, and confident in the efficacy of the writing on the gate, we decided to return at once to Sorovich and to send up a doctor and nurses forthwith to begin medical work.

We were soon upon the road, and, but for tedious delays at the narrow bridges and in the still congested village streets, for all sorts of traffic, military and other, was still pouring towards the town, we made good speed and swept up to the battered old Turkish guard house, which formed our mess at Sorovich, in the early afternoon.

The doctor and nurses were at once commissioned to start for Monastir on the morrow, and every preparation, medical and material, for their use and comfort was set in hand. The enthusiasm attending this first expedition to the long-promised goal knew no bounds. The difficulty was to check the ardour of the unselected; all the Sisters wanted to go.

This enthusiasm, alas! was soon to meet with a most depressing check. The Allies had either neglected or postponed the task of pushing the enemy off their formidable mountain positions northward and north-westward of Monastir, and within a few hours of the arrival of our detachment in the town bombardment began from batteries within five miles distance, and the detachment, to the intense disgust of the nurses, who pluckily wished to remain under all circumstances, was peremptorily ordered out of the town and obliged to return crestfallen to Sorovich.

The bombardment continued with intermissions for more than a year. We paid repeated visits to the hapless town during the winter, spring and summer that followed our first entry, and almost always to the accompaniment of the shriek and crash of shells from the Bulgar batteries and the promptly replying French guns on the near hills.

For the first few months the enemy seemed to desire to spare the town itself, and only sent occasional deliberately aimed shells into it, but in the early spring he changed his tactics, and poured in high explosive and deadlier gas shells without mercy, in furious day-long bombardments, interspersed with bombing attacks by aeroplane.

It was sad and terrible to hear of, and still more so to see, the havoc and misery caused by this typical German cruelty. Those of the luckless population who could not or would not leave the town for neighbouring villages were constrained to shelter, during these awful visitations, in all available cellars. Those of the Archbishop's palace, known as the "Metropolitan," were filled with families and with their beds and bedding, and here a dreadful tragedy occurred when the gas, from shells dropped in the street outside, flowed into the cellars and asphyxiated men, women and little children. Our splendid basement afforded similar shelter to a large number of poor folks, and, the restrictive orders being rescinded, we established a forty-bed ambulance in the best sheltered portion, after wiring the windows, forming cubicles for our staff, and cleaning and whitewashing the whole. These large white cellars, with windows well above ground to the south and west, made very useful and by no means dismal wards, and an operating theatre and dispensary were formed in the best protected angle of the ground floor above. A surgeon, four sisters, a lady cook, and a young Serbian engineer and a few orderlies were established here in the early spring, and at once began their most devoted and courageous labours, which, with a few changes of personnel, they continued up to the time of the armistice.

The building had, by that date, been struck by shell several times, and its roof riddled by shrapnel. It had hardly an unbroken pane in its countless windows. It shook and trembled with the constant explosions, and a new hit was by no means infrequent, but its brave little staff loyally and cheerfully continued its duties in succouring the terribly diminished and martyred population.

If no very active bombardment was in progress, you would find, in the forenoon, a heterogeneous crowd of out-patients—Macedonian, Turkish, Jewish and Serb—standing or squatting in the long white corridor, and waiting, in patient confidence, their turn with the doctor and nurses—a vividly picturesque medley of brown-skinned folk, old and young, in semi-oriental dress and almost ever with a charming dash of red and blue embroidery.

When I visited the ambulance in May and June of 1917, under the splendours of the early summer, I found the flower garden a blaze of bloom and scented with roses, while in a spare strip of ground behind the building the doctor had established a flourishing kitchen garden, where I found an imperturbable old fellow cheerfully digging while occasional shells screamed overhead on their journey towards the nearest French battery.

Luncheon with the hospital staff was generally followed by a careful little walk in the town. We visited the soup kitchen, established by the Serbian Relief Fund in the early days of the bombardment, and daily feeding a great number of the poor. This was presided over by a most devoted Englishman, a professor, I believe, of Greek history, assisted by equally devoted English ladies and a brave Serbian housekeeper. Earlier in the year Mrs. Harley, who had already done so much for the Serbian cause, established a soup kitchen in another quarter of the town, and, seated late one afternoon by the window of her lodgings, was struck by a shell splinter and killed, to the infinite regret of her many friends, British and Serbian.

We called, one splendid summer afternoon, upon an American lady in charge of the American Mission for Girls. This lady, who has had nearly thirty years' experience of Monastir, had remained at her post during the enemy occupation, and her high courage still kept her there. She appeared, indeed, to be hardly more concerned by the whistling shells that flew, during our visit, over her roof and her trim sunny garden, with its acacias and its tall American maple, than if they had been rooks or jackdaws.

From these visits to battered Monastir we usually departed with our dusty little Ford car filled with bouquets from the garden, and followed by cheery good wishes and injunctions, such as "I hope

you'll get safe round the corner," "I wish you well over the bridge," or "Go like blazes till you're past the station." We started slow and steady over the ruts and cobbles under the lee of the building, carefully turned the dangerous corner where so many shells had dropped, and then began to go like "blazes," like "billy-ho," or any other vague simile of speed and haste, past the smashed burnt-out old pink cavalry barracks, past the common with its grazing cows and many shell holes, where we have seen so many new ones suddenly formed with a deafening bang and a black spout of mud and earth, past the scarred trees and the red ruins of the railway station, and out into the straight dusty road, and over the little stone bridge, which, like Tam O'Shanter's "brig," signified comparative safety. The bridge once passed, one was no longer concerned about tyre bursts or the punctures that occur so frequently in Macedonia, and could go "polako," or softly, light cigarettes at one's ease, and watch the unconcerned Macedonian men and women, with their full white shirts and their embroidery, at work in their warworn meadows. Thence eastward and homeward along the plains, with the near mountains on the right forming a splendid wall at whose feet nestle many white villages, and the further and bigger ones on the left catching the western sun, and on by red-roofed Banitza, and the pass with its gorges that lead to Sorovich, was a bumpyish joy ride of 35 miles or so through beautiful scenery and terminating, as the sun disappeared behind the hills, in the luxuries of a petrol tin full of warm water in one's own blessed tent and a subsequent ration dinner in the many-tabled rough-roofed hospital mess. But, in the watches of the night, from our narrow camp beds, we caught the heavy intermittent boom of guns from the north-west, and we knew that for Monastir there was little rest by night or by day.

That her martyrdom may never recur, and that soon her much-enduring citizens may move in peace in her narrow ways and over her broad spaces, free from the constant menace of ruin and death, that her gardens may bloom again amid re-edified homes, and that her old peaceful life of little industries and many-hued market crowds may again fill her streets with cheerful clatter, must be the fervent hope of every well-wisher of Serbia.

\* \* \* The Paper as printed represents only a portion of the discourse delivered by Mr. Warren. A large number of lantern slides were shown, and these gave occasion for the telling of many an interesting anecdote, sometimes humorous, sometimes pathetic, sometimes tragic. Mr. (till lately Lieut.) W. H. Ward [F.] and Capt. Martin Briggs [F.], proposer and seconder respectively of the vote of thanks to Mr. Warren, had interesting reminiscences of their own military service to relate. Both paid tribute to the efficiency and resourcefulness and power of organisation displayed by Mr. Warren in carrying out the duties of his difficult and trying position on the Serbian Hospital staff.—ED.



RE-ENTRY OF THE SERBS INTO MONASTIR.



## REVIEWS.

## SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSES.

*The Small Houses of the Late Georgian Period, 1750-1820.*  
By Stanley C. Ramsey. Sm. fol. Lond. 1919. Price  
£1 1s. [Technical Journals, Ltd.]

To-day is the day of the modest dwelling, and Mr. Ramsey's book of the smaller houses built in the latter half of the eighteenth century and the early years of the nineteenth should make a wide appeal. The weary designer of housing schemes will find refreshment in the many admirable plates and the short but interesting introduction. These truly simple homes, so restrained, so full of sane liveableness, yet often possessed of an intimate grace and charm, rely very largely for their effect on the proportions of their sash bars, their carefully designed doorways, their delicate fanlights, or trellis porches or ironwork. Remove these accessories and they become lifeless shells, stale, dull, and unprofitable. Here is the danger of modern housing schemes. If these small focal points of interest are ignored, we shall run the risk of having the country covered with State barracks of dismal monotony.

Some of the examples shown are dull, and one wonders why they are included amongst the many admirable selections, unless it be to make us exert our critical faculty in summing up the good and bad points of a period that has its dangers. In place of certain examples that scarcely justify any claim to appeal to the architectural sense, a few plans and interior views would have satisfied a reasonable curiosity to know what lies behind many of these inviting doorways.

The description of the social influences of the day that produced these houses is of interest. The reflex action of town on country and country on town, the desire for more rural homes, the increasing habit of taking holidays at the seaside or the Spa, accounts for many of the surprises met with in unexpected places. The generous bow windows, the delicate ironwork of balcony and verandah, painted a bright green against white walls, express a sense of holiday gaiety that perfectly suits their happy purpose and surroundings, making the northerner wish that Blackpool and Llandudno had followed the example illustrated from Weymouth or many another southern seaside resort. A like inter-action is also felt in the close similarity of style that many of the examples possess with the contemporary "Colonial" work in the American Colonies, as, for instance, in Surrey Lodge, Denmark Hill, with the ample spacing of its attenuated columns and the delicate enrichment of the light entablature.

With clear and logical sequence the author points out the influence of the great men on even the smallest buildings throughout the length and breadth of England. Kent and Ware, the brothers Adam, Chambers, Taylor, and John Paine, all made their strong personalities felt, but when the reproduction of Stuart and Revett's Athenian studies were deemed

fitting ornaments for modest suburban villas, one sighs for the English virility of the earlier examples and heartily agrees with Sir Edwin Lutyens that we should "never forget that for us Renaissance should be spelt WREN-AISSANCE."

The Paragon at Blackheath is an isolated example that merits special study. It is a superb instance of the grand manner obtained by the linking up of comparatively modest houses on a concerted plan. The lack of such cohesion gives to many modern housing schemes their scrappy and uncoordinated effect.

In the zeal for evolving the perfect "type plan" of the day, and absorbing the reasoned thoroughness and research of the Government Housing Manuals there is, perhaps, hardly enough thought given to the æsthetic side of the question, although architects gleefully boast that they have taken the place of the jerry-builder. It is surely a point that merits contemplation.

This book, with its clear introduction by one who has contributed much towards the best of modern housing, and its numerous examples, has come at a time to make designers pause and search their consciences as to whether they have learned the lessons of these unobtrusive little houses with the homely charm of a more restful age, so admirable in their harmonious restraint, with just that touch of interest and vitality that is given by the judicious application of simple rules of proportion and use of concentrated points of interest.

J. HUBERT WORTHINGTON [A.].

## WALTHAM ABBEY.

*The Church of Waltham Holy Cross. A Guide compiled by Gifford H. Johnson, M.A., formerly Canon of Waltham Abbey. 2nd ed., revised and enlarged. Lond. 1919. 1s. net. [Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, Amen Corner, E.C.]*

This eminently readable little book—model of all that a guide should be—has been increased in its second edition from 16 to 64 pages. Several new illustrations and a plan are given, and—not the least useful addition—a list of some of the books, etc., dealing with or containing information about this fascinating old relic.

The first church on the site was built about the year 1030 by Tovi (a great Danish thegn, standard-bearer to Canute) to receive a reputed miraculous cross found in Tovi's land at what is now Montacute, in Somerset. Hence the name, "Waltham Holy Cross," still its official designation. Harold pulled down Tovi's church and built a new one of great magnificence, which was consecrated on 3rd May 1060, King Edward the Confessor and his Queen being present at the ceremony. Harold was deeply attached to the church, and "Holy Cross!" the battle-cry of the English on the field of Senlac, had reference to the "miraculous" cross enshrined at Waltham. On his way to Senlac Harold had visited Waltham and prayed in the church. His body, at first buried on the seashore under a cairn of stones near the fateful



battlefield, was afterwards brought to Waltham and entombed beside the altar. Later, it was again removed to another spot in the choir, which was pulled down at the Dissolution in 1540. The body of Queen Eleanor was probably deposited in the church for the night on its way to Westminster, and in 1307 the remains of her husband, Edward I., rested for three months near Harold's tomb. It is recorded that in the great Peasant revolt of 1381, the abbey saw every document that it possessed consigned to the flames. At the Dissolution the monastery, choir, north and south transepts, eastern chapels and central tower were destroyed. In 1552 the steeple fell, with all the great bells. In Catholic Mary's reign the west tower was built out of fragments of the ruined portions of the abbey. In 1853 the great west doorway was restored by the architect Mr. Ambrose Poynter, father of the late President R.A. In 1859-60 the church was restored by William Burges; and in 1876 the Lady chapel was restored by the same architect, assisted by Mr. J. Arthur Reeve (dec. 1915) as clerk of the works.

The illustrations in the Guide include Burges's Plan, which shows the probable dimensions of Henry I.'s choir and also the probable extent of the east end of Harold's church. Many competent authorities—among them Mr. Reeve above mentioned—hold that the present nave is in great part the original nave of Harold's building.

The Guide bears evidence of much painstaking research in its compilation. Everything worth knowing about the building is set down clearly and concisely. The historical notes are invaluable, chapter and verse being cited for all the information afforded.

### ARAB MONUMENTS OF EGYPT.

*A Brief Chronology of the Mohammadan Monuments of Egypt to A.D. 1517. By Capt. K. A. C. Creswell, R.A.F.*

Before the war transported Captain Creswell to Egypt he was already known by reason of his articles on the Persian dome, and to readers in the various art libraries in London for his wonderful card-index of references to Oriental art, on which he was engaged almost up to the time when he quitted civilian life. Members of the Institute will recall his Paper in the September issue of this JOURNAL last year on the remarkable vaulting system of the Hindola Mahal at Mandu. Having thus made the subject of Oriental buildings his hobby, and devoted years of his spare time to his studies, he was fortunate enough to be sent to Cairo, of all places under the sun, and to be left undisturbed there through the remaining years of the war, free to carry on his researches without interruption. Few among us were so favourably placed. The Army either marooned us in some desolate spot where every day was too long, or hustled us about like helpless parcels. But one may safely assert that no soldier in the E.E.F. had either the previous knowledge or the perseverance to produce such a work as this new

chronological catalogue of the Arab monuments of Egypt.

It is in itself a monument of sound and enduring archæological scholarship. The author's object is to provide an accurate date for each of the Arab buildings in Egypt, some 220 in number, prior to the Turkish conquest in 1517. The greater part of this long list consists of Cairo buildings, and references to the mosques of Rosetta, Alexandria, and Mehalleh-el-Kulra are practically nil, while only one at Damietta is catalogued. One is therefore left to assume that Captain Creswell attributes all these provincial examples to a period later than 1517, and thus disagrees with Saladin and other writers. In most cases the treatment is strictly chronological. Thus on p. 53 he dismisses the interesting mosque of el-Guyuchy, on the Mokattam, with five lines of quotation from various historians, though doubtless he could write five pages of descriptive matter if it suited his scheme. Occasionally, however, he departs from this Spartan ideal, and on p. 77 he so far forgets his habitual restraint as to speak of a "beautiful" cenotaph. The paragraph devoted to each building is concluded with admirably complete references to published authorities, the bulk of these being naturally taken from the *Corpus* of M. van Berchem and from the *Comptes Rendus* of the Comité de Conservation des monuments de l'Art arabe, which form the basis for his own work. There is also a reference in each case to the index-number on the excellent map published by the Comité.

But several buildings are included which do not appear on this map, and on pp. 52 and 59, *e.g.*, he is able to record discoveries of his own. His paragraphs on the Walls, the Aqueduct, and the Citadel of Cairo are examples of a fuller treatment, in which he includes more descriptive matter, and here his catalogue becomes almost discursive. His remarks on the influence of the Crusaders at the Citadel, too, are interesting. Perhaps the best instance of his methods may be seen in his treatment of the Palace of the Emir Yushbak (pp. 98-100), and of the Sultaniya Mausoleum (pp. 128-9), both showing great care and thoroughness.

The book is concluded with very complete indices, and with a series of 38 plates, reproduced chiefly from the author's beautiful negatives, though doing scant justice to the clearness of the originals.

One is impressed, in reading this catalogue, by the wonderfully complete sequence of the mediæval buildings of Cairo, and by the accuracy with which more than half of them are dated by their builders, two points that Captain Creswell emphasises in his preface. His transliteration of Arabic is somewhat formidable, and the strings of proper names, bristling with accents, are bewildering to any but a profound scholar in that difficult language. However, this is a book for professors, not for amateurs or for babes. The author's glib use of architectural terms drives a mere architect, like the present reviewer, to a dictionary for enlighten-

ment. And if any criticism of so abstruse a work may be permitted, the constant use of the first person singular becomes irritating. Such sentences as "I do not hesitate to answer in the affirmative," and "I can only say that I agree," are hardly worthy of the scholarship displayed in research.

So far as one can see without any very searching comparison, the catalogue is free from errors, whether on the part of the author or printer. The title under the illustration on plate IVB does not seem to agree with the reference on p. 58, and on p. 63 the name of a Cairo architect is misspelt, obviously a printer's error. Otherwise no praise can be too high for the care that has evidently been taken in the revision of the proofs.

M. S. B.

### BUILDING PRICES.

*New Standard Building Prices for the Use of Architects, Civil Engineers, Builders, Contractors, etc. By Lt.-Col. T. E. Coleman. 80. Lond. 1919. 4s. net; postage 3d. [E. & F. N. Spon, Ltd., 57 Haymarket, S.W.]*

Lieut.-Col. E. Coleman, Staff for Royal Engineers' Services, has produced a valuable book for these difficult times. In his preface he states that in 1914 ordinary building expenditure could be closely estimated, because the average cost of labour and materials was more or less standardised. These standardised prices have been adopted in this book as a basis for determining the current values of building work.

The three principal disturbing factors which have affected building prices generally, as compared with the rates ruling for similar work in 1914, are:—

(1) Increased rates of labour due to reduction of food supplies.

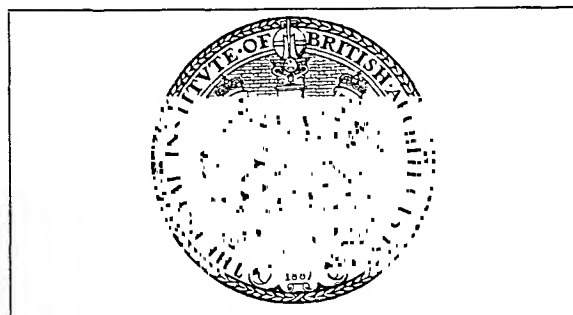
(2) Decreased efficiency and output of labour by the employment of old or unskilful workmen. At the time of the Armistice the loss of the labour output in all trades was generally estimated at about 20 per cent. under the ordinary pre-war standard.

(3) Increased cost of materials owing to demand for materials for war purposes and the Government control.

In a valuable series of tables the percentage increases in labour and materials in the London district are carefully worked out. In Table II. the approximate values under ordinary business competition conditions are set out for various trades. Broadly speaking, the average cost of building generally at the present time is two and a quarter times the pre-war cost of similar work.

In connection with the Government scheme for industrial housing, it is assumed that the cost of building will become normal in about seven years from the date of Peace being signed, and that the "new normal" for building prices generally will be approximately 30 per cent. less than the average prices ruling in June 1919. If this is so, the "new normal" building prices will average about 84 per cent. of the pre-war rates in 1914.

H. D. SEARLES-WOOD [F.].



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 22nd November 1919.

### CHRONICLE.

#### The President.

Members will regret to learn that the President, on the advice of his doctor, is obliged to suspend for a time some of his activities at the Institute and to absent himself from the Council and General Meetings. It will be for a short period only, it is hoped. Mr. Simpson had arranged a series of visits to the Allied Societies, and was booked for the Northern Architectural Association on the 19th, for the Birmingham Association on the 21st, and for the Manchester Society on the 26th. These engagements have had to be cancelled, but the visits will be paid as soon as Mr. Simpson's health permits. Meanwhile his official duties at the Institute will be performed by the Vice-Presidents.

#### The Problem of London Housing.

Mr. Davidge's Paper on the above subject at the Institute last Monday attracted a large audience, and a very interesting discussion followed. Among the speakers were Mr. Bernard Holland, Chairman of the Housing Committee of the London County Council, Mr. Duncan Watson, Mayor of Marylebone, Mr. J. P. Orr, C.S.I., O.B.E., Director of Housing under the London County Council, Professors Beresford Pite, S. D. Adshead, and A. E. Richardson, and the President. The paper, together with a report of the discussion, will appear in the next issue.

#### Conferences at the Ideal Home Exhibition.

Dr. Addison has promised to receive the chairmen of all the Local Housing Authorities in Great Britain at the *Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia in February next. It having been suggested that the occasion might be turned to practical value by holding one or more conferences for these authorities during the first days of the exhibition, the Council of the Institute, at the request of the promoters, agreed to organise such conferences. It is understood that the Ministry of Health attaches great importance to the exhibition, and is itself arranging an ambitious display in the annexe that has been reserved for the Department. The Minor Hall at Olympia, which seats about 800 people, has been

placed at the disposal of the Institute for the purpose of the conferences. Mr. E. Guy Dawber, Vice-President, will act as organising secretary.

#### The Building Trades' Parliament.

The Industrial Council for the Building Industry (Building Trades' Parliament) have invited the Council of the R.I.B.A. to send two representatives to attend the next meeting of the Industrial Council, to be held at York on the 25th November, when the question of the possibility of the organisations representing Architects and Surveyors becoming affiliated to the Industrial Council for the Building Industry will be considered. Mr. A. W. S. Cross, Vice-President, and Major Harry Barnes, M.P. [F.] have been appointed the Institute representatives.

#### Cost of Party Walls.

Messrs. C. F. Norman [F.] and J. S. Gibson [F.] send for publication the award just made by Mr. W. E. Riley (late Superintending Architect to the L.C.C.) in a party wall matter, under Part VIII. of the London Building Act, 1894. They point out that "in dealing with party wall questions since the Armistice, architects have been confronted with the difficulty of determining whether the owner of a site, upon which he is about to erect a building and proposes to make use of existing party walls, shall be compelled to pay to the owner of the existing party walls the cost of the wall at present-day prices, or at the price when the walls were erected. The enormous increase in the cost of building since 1914 has rendered it desirable to have an authoritative opinion, for the guidance of property owners and their agents." The point is covered in the following extract from Mr. Riley's award:—

"That the building owners shall be at liberty, subject to the provisions of Part VIII. of the London Building Act, 1894, at any time and from time to time, to use the whole or any part of the said party wall for the purposes of any proposed new building, upon first making payment to the adjoining owners of a moiety of the costs and expense of the erection of such portion or portions of the said wall as they, the building owners, may so desire to use, such moiety to be ascertained by measurement and valued upon the basis of the actual expense incurred by the adjoining owners at the time the said wall was erected."

#### National Housing Scheme: New Arrangements.

*The Times*, in its issue of the 14th, states that the Ministry of Health has concluded arrangements with the Builders' Federations with a view to the substitution of agreed piece contracts for competitive tendering. Under this system it is suggested that the Federations in their respective districts will make themselves responsible in their corporate capacity for putting up a certain number of houses, and then divide this number among their members who will carry out the work. Another step taken by Dr. Addison is to introduce a scheme of devolution by which specially appointed members of Parliament will act

as his agents in the country. The members chosen for this duty are Sir Tudor Walters, Mr. Neville Chamberlain, Sir William Seager, Major Harry Barnes [F.] and Sir Kingsley Wood. Up to a certain point these representatives of the Minister will have plenary powers, and they will act in bringing together the builders and the local Housing Committees. It is essential that the assistance and co-operation of the small builders—the men who in the past erected the majority of the cottage houses of the country—should be obtained if houses in the required numbers are to be provided instead of remaining merely the subject of discussion. If through the Federations of Master Builders these men can get to work progress may at last become possible. The idea behind the devolution scheme is to avoid the delays entailed by the necessity for direct communication with the Ministry of Health.

#### A Cabinet Committee on Housing.

A Cabinet Committee, which includes Dr. Addison as chairman, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Sir L. Worthington-Evans, Mr. Munro, and Sir Tudor Walters, has been appointed to devise new measures for dealing with the most urgent of the country's domestic problems, that of Housing. *The Times* Parliamentary Correspondent, in the issue of the 18th, says that the Cabinet clearly regard the situation which the Committee has to face as a serious one.

When Ministers took the matter into their own hands at a recent Cabinet meeting, they were gravely disturbed at finding that only 180 of the 500,000 houses to be built under the national programme were actually occupied. The number of houses in course of erection is 10,000, which, according to the estimate of the Ministry of Health, will have been increased to 100,000 by next May or June. The Cabinet are now confronted with two new factors of a serious character. The first is that, with every week that passes, the deficiency in housing accommodation becomes more acute. In the second place, with winter setting in earlier than usual, progress in building would have to be slow in the next few months. The first question the Cabinet Committee had to deal with is the proved need of supplementing municipal effort by private enterprise. The private builder must be brought into the scheme, and the question is as to the best means of attracting him. The payment of a substantial subsidy on each house built is suggested as the only way out. The relative urgency, in the national interest, of different classes of building has to be considered. Should the trade be switched off the building of moving-picture houses, or even of factories, on to the development of housing sites? Is it desirable to revive the old priority system? Or can the desired result be achieved by voluntary agreement? These are some of the questions the Committee has to answer. Next there is the question of finance. The only local authorities who have got to work are those which have been able to raise the necessary money. Many authorities have failed to raise their loan, and it is suggested that a National Housing Loan should be floated.

The Ministry of Health has been in a position to exercise overriding powers over the local authorities since October 30th, and it has taken the first steps towards compelling the defaulters to perform their part. Backward authorities have been asked for explanations of their supineness. If the replies are unsatisfactory the Ministry will send its own men into the localities concerned to plan

and build the houses required. The locality will then have to bear the entire cost of the scheme.

#### Architects and Housing in Ireland.

An Order, bearing date 5th November 1919, made under seal by the Local Government Board for Ireland under the Housing (Ireland) Act, 1919, states that, "after consultation with the President of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland," the Board have made rules for carrying into effect the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Act, 1890 to 1919, and for prescribing the duties, conditions of employment, and qualifications of architects employed in the execution of those Acts. Rule 3 prescribes that the Local Authority shall employ an architect for every housing scheme they are carrying out under the Act, and Rule 4 defines as qualified for employment as architects: (1) Fellows or Members of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, or Fellows, Associates, or Licentiates of the Royal Institute of British Architects; (2) City, Borough, and Town Surveyors who satisfy the Board that they are personally qualified for such employment; (3) Persons who by examination or the production of testimonials or other evidence satisfy the Board that they have sufficient qualifications for such employment. Rule 4 lays down that the conditions of the employment of an architect by the Local Authority shall be those that are customary in the profession, and in particular the conditions as to fees and travelling expenses prescribed by the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland. A schedule is appended to the Order, setting out the Scale of Fees, which is substantially the same as that sanctioned by the R.I.B.A. The Housing Department of the Local Government Board for Ireland has addressed a letter to the various municipal authorities throughout the country calling attention to the provisions of the Order, and stating that the Board have established a Joint Committee consisting of the four members of the Board's Housing Committee, and two architects selected from four nominated by the Council of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland—viz., Mr. A. E. Murray, R.H.A., F.R.I.A.I., F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. G. P. Sheridan, F.R.I.A.I., A.R.I.B.A. This Committee will from time to time recommend to the Board for inclusion in the panel the names of persons who do not appear on the rolls of membership of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland or the R.I.B.A., but who produce satisfactory evidence under Rule 3 of the Order that they are qualified for employment. The Housing Board enclosed with the above-mentioned letter the official list of Fellows and Members of the R.I.A.I., together with a list of the Fellows, Associates, and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A. who reside in Ireland, and the names and addresses of other qualified persons who have been added to the panel. The letter concludes that "in some instances a Town Surveyor may be thoroughly qualified to perform the engineering part of the work entailed by a scheme, but may lack some of the qualifications necessary for his appointment as an architect; in such case it may be considered desirable and found possible to arrange that the services of the qualified architect who must be appointed shall be availed of only with respect to the more strictly architectural work."

#### Symmetry and Proportion in Greek Art.

At a meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies, held at Burlington House last week, Mr. Jay Ham-

bidge, the American scholar and archaeologist, elaborated his theory of symmetry and proportion in Greek Art.

There were, he said, two types of symmetry in Nature which might be serviceable to art: one was observable in the phenomena of leaf distribution, known as phyllotaxis, and in the shell. Because of its character of balance in movement this type had been termed "dynamic." The other type was apparent in crystals, cross-sections of seed-pods, and in natural mosaic forms. Because of certain passive characteristics this type of symmetry had been termed "static." This latter type was that used, consciously or unconsciously, in design. Inasmuch as design was not possible without symmetry, it became necessary to eliminate artistic personality from design and classify such works according to the degree of technical knowledge which we found in them.

When this was done we found that the design of all nations and times fell within the "static" class except two, these two exceptions being Egypt and Greece. The design of these two peoples stood in a class distinct, and the symmetry of their design was overwhelmingly "dynamic." According to Vitruvius, the Greeks were careful to arrange their designs according to certain principles of symmetry, especially so their temples. They were induced to work out the principles of this symmetry when they found that the members of the human body were commensurate with the whole. Vitruvius describes this symmetry in detail, and furnishes elaborate methods for constructing buildings in the Greek style, using for that purpose certain *moduli*. He also undertook to reduce the human figure to a similar base. As no Greek building had been found which agreed with the Roman scheme, Vitruvius, to this extent at least, stood discredited. His scheme for the human figure had likewise proved useless.

The use of a *modulus* in design would automatically produce static symmetry. The Roman writer erred in assuming that "commensurability" meant measurableness of length. The present investigation showed that what was meant was commensurability of area, and consequently volume. When the figure of man, or the plant, or Greek design was measured and interpreted in terms of area the result was a revelation.

There were three sources for the study of dynamic symmetry: man and the plant, the five regular solids of geometry, and Greek and Egyptian art, particularly the former. We studied man and the plant to learn how the rhythmic themes of dynamic form were actually used by Nature. The five regular solids of geometry furnished us with the abstract fact of the dynamic system, and from Greek art we saw how these rhythmic themes were actually employed by masters of design. The question of consciousness or unconsciousness of use was, for the moment, unimportant. Had he the power he would paralyse the working hand of every artist on earth and keep it paralysed until the facts of dynamic symmetry were known.

#### Fresh Minoan Discoveries in Crete.

The *Times* correspondent, in a message from Athens dated 11th November, states that the ruins of an ancient palace which has been discovered in the village of Malia, near Candia, in Crete, are attributed to the Minoan period. The bases of the excavated columns are decorated with golden ornaments, and also bear inscriptions. A few miles from the palace tombs containing skeletons have been found. The excavated area is believed to be the site of an ancient town. Work on the ruins is being continued under the

supervision of the Senior Ephor of Antiquities, M. Hatzidákis. In Amphipolis, Macedonia, a colossal marble piece has been found in a space which was originally excavated by British soldiers. The marble represents a lion, and is supposed to belong to the Classical period, but the experts have not yet pronounced their opinion.

Commenting upon the above in *The Times* Sir Arthur Evans says:—"The Ephor of Antiquities for the Cretan Government had already begun excavations at Malia, and had found remains of an ancient Minoan town. Hitherto they had only found houses of private citizens. The account of column bases inlaid with gold is quite new. There are no other inlaid column bases known. The tombs with skeletons in probably refer to interments of the later Minoan period, and the houses hitherto found were also late Minoan. It looks as if this discovery belongs to the later period. It is to be doubted if the inscriptions were on parts of the building that has been discovered, since no Minoan architectural inscription has been found hitherto. Most probably they are on clay tablets. The discoveries themselves, however, are monumental enough. Dr. Hatzidákis had begun excavations here five years ago, owing to the discovery of quantities of gold leaf by the peasants. A corridor and 18 rooms of a building were then brought to light. Primitive seat-stones, some with steps, show that the settlement here goes back to the earliest Minoan age. I may mention that at Omalos, in the hills to the west of Malia, I discovered several years since a group of Minoan houses formed of massive blocks, and small beehive tombs of the latest Minoan epoch partly built into their walls."

#### The Professional Ideal in Architecture.

In his Presidential Address to the Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Mr. Henry K. Holsman said:—

"No new form or colour invented by an individual (if such a thing is conceivable) can be called art unless it raises to the consciousness of the beholder past pleasures of the mind or familiar instincts of the race. He who would be an artist must serve his people with an emotional understanding of them and their past.

"The profession of architecture imposes upon its members the same familiarity with the achievements of structural and social sciences. The architect must work in close co-operation and deep sympathy with other professions than his own. No individual can achieve in this profession by himself. Architecture does not depend upon the inspiration of genius but upon painstaking culture and talent and the mastery of the principles of the arts and sciences accumulated from all the ages, from men of all professional classes who have worked and thought along social, structural, and æsthetic lines. Architecture is a social phenomenon, not an individual phenomenon.

"That our profession is the oldest, the broadest, and the last to come to consciousness is at once our opportunity and our responsibility. Being in sympathy with so many other professions, it becomes our obligation to wake up and help to prepare for that day of full professional consciousness when men of all classes, from the humblest trades-unionist to the exalted statesman, will ask and receive of the treasures laid up in professionalism. Class consciousness is the chief reason for the existence of any professional organisation. . . .

"It is our chief duty to develop our organisation, in order to develop our class consciousness. By serving with each other in close contact and fraternity, we can develop

an awareness of our combined strength and power. To belong is not enough—to participate must be the watchword. When we know each other as individuals, we can make ourselves known to society as a class. We may not have been first in war, but we can be first in peace. Let us stand by the professional ideal, to ourselves be true, and unite in one great body and one great purpose, to serve organised society everywhere within the field of our usefulness with one great unselfish professional organisation, the American Institute of Architects."

#### The British School in Egypt.

The activities of the British School in Egypt, which were suspended during the war, are now to be resumed. Mrs. Flinders Petrie, Hon. Secretary of the School, in a recently issued report, states that excavation ceased for five years. The Hon. Director has prepared thirteen volumes of catalogues of various branches in Egyptology, incorporating the results of published work in each subject. Two of these volumes, "Scarabs and Cylinders" and "Tools and Weapons," have been already issued to subscribers in lieu of volumes on excavations. Since the Armistice, "The Treasure of Lahun" has been prepared by Captain Brunton, and will be published this winter. The book has many coloured plates, and will be published at three guineas, but will be given to subscribers of two guineas, and to new subscribers of three years' duration. The quarterly journal, "Ancient Egypt," suspended in 1918 and 1919, will be resumed at the same annual subscription of 7s. post free. Increased funds, it is stated, will permit of excavation on a larger scale than formerly. Owing to the School's improved resources, it is not proposed to raise members' subscriptions.

#### A Fifteenth-Century English Altarpiece in Alabaster.

The Victoria and Albert Museum acquired last month at the sale of Lord Swansea's collection at Singleton Abbey a complete English altarpiece in alabaster, dating from the middle or second half of the fifteenth century. Such altarpieces were made in considerable quantities from the alabaster quarried at Chellaston, in Derbyshire, and much of the work was done at Nottingham. They appear to have been regular articles of export; and a certain number of complete altarpieces are preserved in France and Italy and elsewhere; but though many separate panels exist in English public and private collections, no other complete altarpiece, as far as is known, has been preserved in this country.

The altarpiece is in triptych form, with its original wood frame painted and decorated with gilt gesso. The lower border bears inscriptions describing the subjects of the panels. These are five in number, and represent the Annunciation, the Nativity, the Holy Trinity, the Ascension of Christ, and the Assumption of the Virgin. At the ends of the wings are figures of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. The colouring and gilding of the alabaster have been extremely well preserved, and the whole altarpiece gives a remarkable idea of the brilliant effect produced by such panels, individually often insignificant, when combined in their proper setting. It has been temporarily exhibited in Room 62, to the right of the main entrance.

#### The Cardiff Architectural Students' Union.

The newly established Cardiff Architectural Students' Union has started a Designing Club, numbering at present

about twenty-five members. The movement has the full support of the President of the South Wales Institute of Architects, Mr. Ivor P. Jones [A.], to whose incessant work among the students the formation of the Union was due. His partner, Mr. Percy Thomas, has undertaken to act as assessor in all the students' competitions.

#### Gold Coast Appointment.

An Architectural Draughtsman is wanted for the Public Works Department of the Gold Coast. Candidates, who must be Associates of the R.I.B.A., aged twenty-three to thirty-five, should be neat and expeditious draughtsmen, and have had considerable experience in an architect's office or in the architect's department of a large municipal engineer's office. The salary is £350 per annum, rising by annual increments of £10 to £400 per annum and a war bonus of £120 a year, "which will be continued until six months after the restoration of peace, and will then be reconsidered." Free single quarters (or an allowance in lieu) and free first-class passages are provided. The period of engagement is twelve months continuous residential service, with possible permanency. Two months' leave in England on full salary is granted after each twelve months of completed service, increased to four months if returning to the Colony. Selected candidates will be required to pass a strict medical examination. Applications should be addressed to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street.

#### Draughtsmen Wanted for Royal Engineers in Old Battle Area.

Thirty junior tracers are required for duty in the Survey Department of the Directorate, Graves Registration and Enquiries, France and Flanders. Candidates would be enlisted for one year in the Royal Engineers, on the understanding that their services are dispensed with as soon as the work is completed, which will probably be prior to the termination of their year's engagement. They would work in the offices of the Deputy Assistant Directors in the old battle area in France and Flanders. In addition to the Army rate of pay, enlisted men would be entitled to free quarters, rations, and clothing, and to qualify for promotion to fill such vacancies as may occur. The qualifications required are neat and accurate tracing and draughtsmanship, but it would be an advantage if, in addition, each could make simple surveys of cemeteries and plot same. Superior draughtsmanship is *not* required. The minimum rate of pay for draughtsmen is four shillings (4s.) per diem, an increase above this rate being dependent on the man's skill and rank. Address, The Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street.

#### Keddey Fletcher-Warr Studentships.

The Senate of the University of London invite applications for the Keddey Fletcher-Warr Studentships for the promotion of post-graduate research. The Studentships, which are tenable for three years and are of the annual value of not less than £200, are open equally to men and women of European descent who are graduates of some British University, or have passed an examination necessary to qualify for a Degree of some British University, but other things being equal, preference will be given to a graduate of the University of London. Applications must be received not later than 31st December 1919. Further details can be obtained on application to the Academic Registrar, University of London, South Kensington, S.W.7.

#### The R.I.B.A. Record of Honour : Sixty-sixth List.

##### *Fallen in the War.*

JACKSON, CHARLES ERNEST [*Lieutenant*]. Killed in action, British East Africa.

##### *Mentioned in Lord Haig's Last March Despatch.*

ATCHISON, Lieut. HAROLD R., R.G.A. [*Associate*].  
SEWELL, Capt. REGINALD V. T., R.E. [*Lieutenant*].

#### The Liverpool Society's Dinner to Ex-Service Architects.

The Liverpool Architectural Society, on the 17th November, entertained at dinner the fifty-seven local members of the profession who have returned from service overseas, forty of them being officers or non-commissioned officers. About one hundred architects were present. Mr. T. Taliesin Rees [*F.*], President of the Society, who presided, stated that invitations had been issued not only to members of the Society, but to all local architects who had fought in the War. Non-members of the Society would be welcome as members, and he invited ex-service men who wanted help in restarting business to come to the Council of the Society and they would assist them. Major Gilbert Frazer [*F.*], in responding to a toast, said that when he put down the drawing board and tee-square and went to fight he had plenty of work, which four friends undertook to finish for him. They completed the work, and declined to accept from him any fees for their trouble. To the end of his life his most valued possession would be the sword with which he was presented by his fellow-architects.

The following message was wired from the Institute to Mr. Taliesin Rees on the occasion of the function :

*Salutations and brotherly greetings to you and your guests from the President and Council of the Royal Institute. Hearty congratulations to those who have fought and returned in safety. Your gathering symbolises the reunion of our profession and the beginning of new activity. Accept our cordial wishes for success and prosperity of the Liverpool Society of Architects.*

SIMPSON, *President*.

The telegram was read by Mr. Rees to the assembled guests, and the toast of "The President, R.I.B.A.," was musically honoured and a suitable reply despatched.

The toast "The Boys left behind in France" was honoured in silence. Among the fallen was Captain Matthew Honan [A.], the donor of £1,000 for the foundation of the travelling scholarship which has been associated with his name.

#### Mr Edward Warren's New Appointment.

Mr. Edward Warren, who describes his war experiences in France and the Balkans in the present issue of the JOURNAL, has been appointed Principal Architect for Mesopotamia, with the rank of major. He left for Mesopotamia some weeks ago, commissioned to report on the architectural treatment of British military cemeteries in that country and their monuments.



### Registration of Architects.

At a meeting of the Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society, held last Tuesday, a discussion took place on the Registration of Architects, and, on the motion of Mr. Harry Gill, *Past President*, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"That the Statutory Registration of Architects is an urgent necessity."

"That the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Society of Architects, and representatives of outside architects be asked to collaborate on the draft of a Bill to be presented to Parliament at an early date."

### Professional Notices.

Mr. Annesley H. Brownrigg [A.] has changed his address from 69, Chancery Lane, E.C., to 13, Park Place, St. James', S.W.1. Telephone: Gerrard 8765.

Mr. Walter H. Brierley, F.S.A. [F.], of 13, Lendal, York, has taken into partnership Mr. J. Hervey Rutherford, who has been with him as chief assistant for eighteen years.

An Associate, restarting in practice, having a large experience in factory and domestic work, is prepared to assist other architects in his own office. Address "H.G.," c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

## OBITUARY.

### John Kirkwood Currie [A.].

It is with great regret that we have to record the death from pneumonia of John Kirkwood Currie, at Muswell Hill, on November 5th, at the age of 28 years.

Mr. Currie, who was the only son of Rev. and Mrs. Hugh H. Currie, of Aberdeen, served his articles with Messrs. Wilson & Walker, of Aberdeen, and thereafter entered the office of Messrs. Niven & Wigglesworth. A student of the R.I.B.A. in 1912, he was elected an Associate of the Institute in 1919. Never of robust health, he was not accepted for the Forces during the war, in spite of repeated attempts to join up, but he was able to find an outlet for his patriotism in strenuous service under the Ministry of Munitions, where he did valuable work in the Building Department. After his release from war work, Mr. Currie returned to Messrs. Niven & Wigglesworth as their head draughtsman. His faithful service and interest in his work are evident from the fact that on what proved to be his deathbed he wrote notes and sent valuable information to the office that work might not be hindered by his absence more than was inevitable.

Those of us who were privileged to know him well, found in him a genial and helpful friend and a promising architect who will be much missed, and the profession at large can ill afford this loss from its ranks, already sadly thinned by the war.

J. VALENTINE BOWRING.  
G. MAXWELL AYLWIN [A.].  
W. TONGE.

## MINUTES II.

At the Second General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 17th November 1919, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 46 Fellows (including 13 members of the Council), 58 Associates (including 4 members of the Council), 15 Licentiates, and several visitors—the Minutes of the Meeting held 3rd November 1919 having been taken as read, were signed as correct.

The decease was announced of the following members: John Samuel Alder, elected *Fellow* 1916; Frederic Hammond, elected *Fellow* 1890; Martin Thomas Ernest Jackson, elected *Fellow* 1914; Edwin Montgomery Bruce Vaughan, elected *Fellow* 1891; William Bell, elected *Associate* 1909; Lister Coates, elected *Associate* 1886; Louis Paxton Grace, elected *Associate* 1876; John Kirkwood Currie, elected *Associate* 1919; also of the following Licentiates: Arthur Owen Breeds, Edward Charles Henry Maidman, Abraham Sharp, James Buchanan Pentland Smith, Francis H. Witts.

The Hon. Secretary having referred to the death of Sir Edward Poynter, it was

RESOLVED, That the Institute do record its deep regret at the loss of its revered Honorary Fellow, Sir Edward Poynter, Bart., who had filled for so many years with such high distinction the Presidency of the Royal Academy of Arts, and that a message of the members' sincerest sympathy and condolence be conveyed to his son, their esteemed Fellow, Sir Ambrose Poynter.

John Camplin Farrer and John Thomas Stone, Associates, attending for the first time since their election, were formally admitted by the President.

A Paper, illustrated by lantern slides, on THE PROBLEM OF LONDON HOUSING having been read by Mr. W. R. Davidge [A.], Housing Commissioner for the London Area, a discussion ensued, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Davidge by acclamation on the motion of Mr. Bernard Holland, Chairman of the Housing Committee of the London County Council, seconded by Mr. Duncan Watson, Mayor of St. Marylebone.

Mr. Davidge having replied, the proceedings closed, and the meeting separated at 10 p.m.

## NOTICES.

### Election of Members, 4th January 1920.

The following applications for election have been received, in addition to those announced in the JOURNAL for October, p. 278. Notice of any objection or other communication respecting them must be sent for submission to the Council prior to Monday, 15th December.

#### AS FELLOWS (5).

BOURNE: WALTER HARGREAVES [A., 1899], 303 Canada Buildings, Saskatoon, Canada.  
BRIDGMAN: NORMAN GEORGE [A., 1892], Devon Chambers, 1 Palace Avenue, Paignton; and "Carlyon," Cadwell Road, Paignton.  
MUIR: ROBERT GEORGE [A., 1912], Gerrards Cross, Bucks; and 15 Elers Road, Ealing, W.13.  
RAMSEY: STANLEY CHURCHILL [A., 1906], 46 Great Russell Street, W.C.; and "Helmsdale," Thames Bank, Kempton, Surrey.  
STRANGE: CHARLES HILBERT [A., 1891], 20 Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

#### AS ASSOCIATES (8).

The candidates have served with H.M. Forces, and, being students and duly qualified, have availed themselves of the concessions granted to students so serving [see Special Regulations, JOURNAL for March 1918].

CORNISH: CHARLES EDWIN [S., 1913], Yeo Vale Cottage, Pilton, Barnstaple.  
CELLEN: ALEXANDER [S., 1919], Brandon Chambers, Hamilton, N.B.  
HOLLAND: CAPTAIN HARRY [S., 1919], 39 Old Deer Park Gardens, Richmond, S.W.  
MORREY: PERCY, M.B.E., B.Sc. Tech. [S., 1919], Enderby, Crewe Road, Nantwich, Cheshire.

POLGLASE ERNEST JOHN [S., 1919], 4 Pencoed Avenue, Pontypriid.

POTTER: ALAN [S., 1902], Grey Gables, Boreham Wood.

ROBERTS: ARTHUR BEAVER LLEWELLYN [S., 1919], 3 Tregunter Road, The Boltons, S.W.10.

TRANMER: FRANK [S., 1919], 25 Devonshire Place, Harrogate.

#### Business and Special Meetings, 1st December.

THE THIRD GENERAL MEETING (BUSINESS) of the Session 1919-20 will be held MONDAY, 1st DECEMBER, 1919, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held 17th November: to announce the names of candidates recommended for admission: formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

Chairman to move that Clause 9 of the Scale of Professional Charges be amended, to bring it into conformity with the Scale of Fees for Housing Schemes agreed between the Royal Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Scottish Board of Health. The new clause would read as follows:—

9. In the case of Housing Schemes and the laying-out of Estates, special arrangements may be required in exceptional circumstances, but for ordinary cases the following scales of fees and arrangements shall apply:—

#### I.—ARCHITECTS.

##### A.—PREPARATION OF LAY-OUT PLANS.

For the preparation of a plan or scheme from existing maps, showing roads, builders' plots and buildings in block, including:—

- (1) Conferences with local authorities and their officials;
- (2) Surveying, levelling, and preparation of contour plan;
- (3) Lay-out plan (where necessary) to 1/2500 scale;
- (4) Detailed lay-out plan or plans to 1/500 scale;

but exclusive of the preparation of detailed plans of buildings:—

For the first 25 houses	..	£1 per house.
For the next 75 houses	..	10s. per house.
For the remainder	..	7s. 6d. per house.

In cases where the number of houses has not been determined, the fee shall be based on an average of 10 houses per acre.

Where a fully contoured plan of the site is provided by the local authority, a deduction shall be made in respect thereof, from the fees above stated, of £1 per acre.

##### B.—ROADS AND SEWERS.

For preparing working drawings, specifications and quantities for roads and sewers in accordance with the lay-out plans prepared under Section A, advising on the same and on the preparation of contract, furnishing to the contractor one copy of the drawings, specifications and quantities, general supervision, issuing certificates, measuring up, passing and certifying the accounts:—

For the first 25 houses	..	£2 per house.
For the next 75 houses	..	£1 per house.
For the remainder	..	15s. per house.

#### C.—COTTAGES AND FLATS.

For taking instructions, preparing sketch design, making approximate estimate of cost, preparing drawings and specifications, obtaining tenders, advising on tenders and on preparation of contract, selecting and instructing consultants, furnishing to the Contractor one copy of the drawings and specifications, and such other details as are necessary for the proper carrying out of the works, general supervision, issuing certificates for payment, and passing and certifying accounts:—

5 per cent. upon the first 12 cottages or flats.
2½ per cent. upon the next 60 cottages or flats.
1½ per cent. upon the remainder.

This scale covers the ordinary variations in type of house and such modifications as are made to avoid monotony in appearance.

Save in exceptional circumstances, it is not desirable that any one architect or firm of architects should be entrusted with more than 250 houses in any one scheme, but the fees payable in respect of each 250 houses shall be calculated as above, whether or no several architects be employed thereon.

#### II—QUANTITY SURVEYORS

For the preparation of bills of quantities:—

2 per cent. upon the first 12 cottages or flats.
1 per cent. upon the next 60 cottages or flats.
¾ per cent. upon the next 178 cottages or flats.
½ per cent. upon the remainder.

This scale covers the ordinary variations in type of house, and such modifications as are made to avoid monotony of design.

For measuring variations on the contract and adjusting the final accounts, the remuneration shall be at the rate of 1½ per cent. on additions, and 1 per cent. on omissions brought into account.

The above scale is exclusive of all disbursements in respect of printing, lithography, and other out-of-pocket expenses.

The above scales of fees are intended to include all necessary duties of an architect and surveyor incidental to the carrying out of the work, including such duties as are involved in complying with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING, summoned by the Council under By-law 65, will be held on *Monday, 1st December 1919*, at 8.30 p.m., to consider a Resolution, which will be moved on behalf of the Council, under By-law 67, for the suspension for a period of twelve months of the following portions of By-laws 10 and 11—viz.:—

*By-law 10, line 4:* From the words "Provided always that" down to the end of the By-law.

*By-law 11,* the concluding sentence: "No candidate who has been excluded from election shall again be proposed within a period of twelve calendar months"





COTTAGES FACING PUBLIC GARDEN, HAMPSHEAD GARDEN SUBURB

## THE PROBLEM OF LONDON HOUSING.

By W. R. DAVIDGE, Housing Commissioner for the London Area.

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 17th November, 1919.

SO much has been written, so much has been said, officially and unofficially, on the problem of housing that there remains, or there ought to remain, little more to be added, though on the subsidiary problems of materials, labour and finance, a good deal more will yet have to be said—possibly forcibly said. The problem of London is one that is always interesting, and the problem of housing in London is one which is of vital interest to us all. Some of us have painful experience, of hunting for a house, or even for a hotel, and all have suffered from the congested and crowded state of London traffic. There never was a time when London was so full of people, or when the houses available were so few. What has happened to all the houses? Why do we want, and always want so many more? Where have the people all come from? Where do they get their living, and why do they come? Is it worth while building houses which possibly may not be wanted in a few years' time?

These and a hundred other questions that vex the Londoner of to-day, vexed his grandfathers and great grandfathers, and I cannot do better than use the words of John Gwynn, famous as an architect and artist, who in 1766 wrote :—

To give any probable reason why such a prodigious encrease of building has been encouraged in this Metropolis may perhaps be esteemed no part of the author's business. Whether it proceeds from the migration of foreigners or from so many convenient roads being made from all parts of the Kingdom; whether it be owing to our own people's deserting their native homes and quitting their innocent country retreats for the sake of tasting the pleasures of this great city (thereby greatly enhancing the price of provisions and every other necessary of life); whether the profits of a successful war has enabled some to keep houses who were formerly contented with lodgings; whether it is owing to the arrival of others, who, having acquired fortunes in the plantations, come to spend them here; or to the monopolising of farms, that is, making one large farm out of three or four small ones, and thereby compelling the farmers who are turned out of them to seek their bread in this metropolis, are all considerations well worth enquiring into; as it is certain that notwithstanding the amazing encrease of buildings, houses are still procured with difficulty, and the rents of most are perpetually encreasing; but these are questions which it is hoped some more able persons will think it worth their while to answer.

And what of the architects who are to build these thousands of houses? Who are they to be, and what sort of buildings will they produce? John Gwynn goes on :—

How different is the state of this noble art at this time, when carpenters, masons, or upholsterers, whose utmost knowledge is the price of timber, the value of stone, or the goodness and quality of ticking and feathers, have the super-

intendency of those works in which elegance of design ought only to be consulted. Nor can we expect to form a great national character for taste and elegance under the direction of such persons, who are furnished only with mean ideas and depraved tastes, the common effects of illiberal education: and yet to such and such only our employers delegate the trust of supervising works of elegance, under the borrowed title of surveyors.

A fine scorn that, but possibly justified—at least, a hundred and fifty-three years ago.

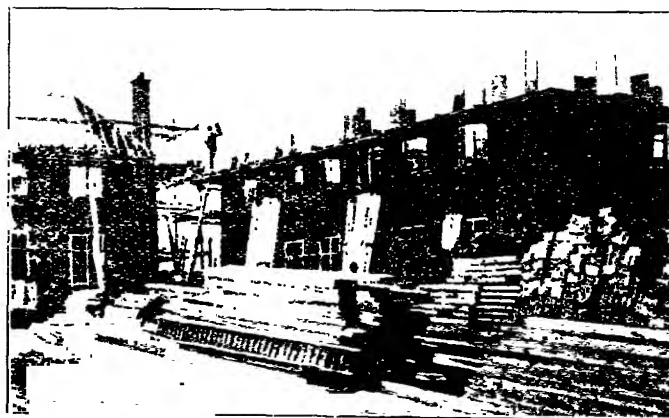
To-day, however, both municipal surveyors and architects are collaborating in many ways, and it is frequently remarkable that the more eminent the surveyor is in his profession, the more ready he is to call in the aid of the architect. There is plenty of open land, too, within easy reach of London which has yet to be developed on a comprehensive plan. Gwynn thought in his day that the building of London was nearly finished, and he remarks quaintly that "the only spot now left about London which has not yet fallen a sacrifice to the depraved taste of modern builders is St. George's Fields"—just across the river! London had considerably less than a million people in his day, and one of his proposals was that the "uttermost limit of buildings" should be Hyde Park on the West, and the New Road (or Euston Road) on the North.

#### PRESENT-DAY CONDITIONS.

At the last census in 1911 Greater London had 7,252,963 inhabitants. So much has happened since the last census returns that an accurate estimate of the present-day conditions is difficult, although each local authority has in the sugar cards and ration book system a fairly approximate means of checking its statistics in this respect. It will, however, probably be generally agreed that, although the actual population of the County of London is probably getting less as it spreads further afield, there are still a vast number of people, largely owing to war-time circumstances, who are housed in deplorable conditions, probably worse than those revealed in the census returns of 1911.

In 1911, out of the total population of the County of London, two-thirds lived in five rooms or less:

per cent	
5.9	lived in 1 room tenements
14.9	.. .. 2 .. ..
19.9	.. .. 3 .. ..
17.4	.. .. 4 .. ..
10.7	.. .. 5 .. ..
8.4	.. .. 6 .. ..
16.9	.. .. 7 rooms and upwards
5.9	.. .. institutions
100.0	



COTTAGES IN COURSE OF ERECTION, RUISLIP COMMON.

Even at that date, 758,786 persons in the County of London were living in conditions of overcrowding, and this number is now probably immensely increased. The leasehold system under which London has developed has in the past proved beneficial in so far as it allowed the whole estate to develop on a general plan. Many of our London squares would never have been provided had it not been for the provision of these open spaces by far-sighted landowners who saw in their provision, what experience has since proved, that such refreshing breathing spaces not only add considerably to the value of the surrounding property, but also afford one of the readiest means of maintaining and upholding the value of the whole estate. The falling-in of the leases of a large estate at approximately the same date also affords an opportunity for comprehensive reconstruction or improvement which would not otherwise be provided.

In spite of these manifest advantages, however, when an estate is under enlightened control,

there are innumerable cases of whole districts on which a blight seems to settle as the leases begin to run out. With the threat of "dilapidations" hanging over his head, the leaseholder's anxiety to make money while he can, leads in only too many cases to underleases and sub-leases, and so on, by which at each process the speculator can squeeze up the ground rent to his own profit, with the result that an economic rent can only be obtained by overcrowding buildings and sub-tenants.

#### OUTWARD MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION.

Additional office, factories and commercial buildings in and around the central area are gradually displacing the dwelling houses, and a slow but steady change of character is evident in many a London square. Soho Square and Hanover Square have long since lost their residential character and become more or less commercial, and this change is evident in all the areas immediately surrounding the central part of London. At the same time there has grown up a tendency for people who could afford it, to live further and further out. Hence the population of the whole *County* of London at the last census showed a tendency to decline as compared with ten years earlier. The population of the City and Holborn began to decline so long ago as 1861; then came the turn of the adjoining areas of Finsbury, Shoreditch, St. Marylebone, and Westminster, which have steadily declined since 1871: then St. Pancras and Chelsea began to drop off in 1891, followed by Bermondsey in 1901, and Southwark and Stepney in 1911. Islington and Kensington had also begun to lose their population, and even in 1911, in twenty out of the twenty-nine Metropolitan Boroughs, the population showed a decrease as compared with ten years before.

#### WHY THE HOUSES ARE WANTED.

The shortage of houses so marked at the present day, not only in London, but all over the civilised community everywhere, is an abnormality which is obviously primarily due to the productive forces of the building trades having for so long a period been engaged in other activities. The Finance Act of 1909 may or may not have aggravated the position as it stood immediately before the war, but be the causes what they may, the facts are obvious that in 1906 the houses built in England and Wales numbered 99,905, and in 1914 only 45,632 were produced; during the war years even this number dwindled away to vanishing point, and the building trade itself was so badly hit that in many cases it is difficult to start again.

#### HOW MANY HOUSES ARE WANTED?

Many elaborate calculations have been made as to the shortage of houses at the present time, the numbers varying from 300,000 to a million or more. The London area extending in all directions, roughly, fifteen miles from Charing Cross, contains rather more than one-sixth of the total population of the country, so that a rough estimate of the needs of London may arrive at a result of anything from 50,000 houses upwards, without counting those which will have to be rebuilt or reconstructed.

The effective population of London, of course, extends in many cases considerably beyond the limits of the Metropolitan Police District, and even for housing purposes the area of the London region has been extended beyond this to include all rural or urban districts, any part of which comes within the police area. From the summary of the returns at present received from the Local Authorities (Form D.89), the need, so far as the authorities in London and Greater London can estimate it, is approximately 60,000 houses, and proposals are also under consideration for the clearing of 200 slum areas. The investigation of these slum areas will inevitably occupy a considerable period, but sooner or later they must be taken in hand in a drastic manner. Apart from slum clearances, there are of course a vast number of unfit houses which, although they cannot be condemned at present, must be reconstructed or put in habitable repair so soon as labour is available. The officials of one borough in the East-End estimate that at least 10,000 houses are needed to replace those houses in their borough alone which fall definitely below a reasonable standard.

### USE OF EXISTING HOUSES.

In addition to these, owing to the constant changing circumstances of London, there are some thousands of large houses still in good condition, but which will never again let as single houses for one family. Over 4,000 such empty houses have been recently inspected by the London Housing Board, and of these some 1,500 were found to be suitable for conversion. The sub-division of such houses into tenements or flats is the only possible use to which they can be put for habitation. That this, too, is not a recent phase, we may remind ourselves by reference to Queen Elizabeth's "Acte againste Newe Buyldings" (35 Eliz. ch. 6), which was intended "for the reformyng of the great mischiefes and inconveniences that daylie grow and increase by reason of the pestering of Houses with diverse Famylyes and converting of great Houses into several Tenements or Dwellings (as well as the erectyng of newe Buyldings) whereby great Infection of Sicknes and dearth of Victualles and Fewell hath grown and ensued."

An earlier Act still, passed in the year of the Armada (31 Eliz. ch. 7), insisted on the provision of at least four acres of ground to every cottage outside the City or borough, and "provided also and bee it enacted That from and after the Feast of All Saints next comyng, there shall not be any Innate or more Famylyes or Households than one, dwellinge or inhabitinge in anye one Cottage."

At the present day there are whole districts of London where practically every house is occupied by two or three families, and certain districts in the East-End where the average rises to nearly ten families per house. It would probably be correct to say that a great proportion of the families of our discharged soldiers and sailors, both officers and men, are at present having to put up with make-shift accommodation or are living with friends or relatives of some description. Most of us have knowledge of many cases of real hardship, where it has been found impossible to get accommodation of the right description.

### INCREASED COSTS AND RENTS.

Meantime the cost of building is nearly three times what it was before the war and continues to rise in approximately the same proportion as the cost of living, so that it becomes increasingly difficult for private enterprise, unaided, to provide the necessary houses. By the Increase of Rents and Mortgage Interest (Restriction) Acts, it is forbidden to increase rents, so that unless some form of subsidy is available, very few, if any, houses will be built by private enterprise. This was early obvious, and, if the necessary accommodation was to be provided, it was clear that the Government had to face the alternatives of either building the houses themselves or of subsidising local authorities or other agencies carrying out the work.

### STATE AID.

After somewhat lengthy negotiations, the course selected was, as you are aware, to carry out the necessary housing schemes through the medium of the local authorities, who are guaranteed by the Government against any annual loss in excess of the produce of a 1d. rate. Assistance was also offered to County Councils for housing their employees, and also to approved Public Utility Societies to the extent of 30 per cent. of their annual loan charges incurred in connection with housing schemes.\* The course chosen involved that the responsibility for providing a sufficient number of suitable houses for their district was, in the first instance, handed over to the local authority. The majority of such authorities, although anxious to proceed, were new to the subject of housing, and felt the need of going carefully in the first place into what must inevitably prove a heavy undertaking.

In Greater London the natural difficulties of the situation are considerably increased by uncertainties as to the provision to be made in any particular district. The extent of the general need to

\* An additional subsidy to private builders of 3d. per cubic foot up to a maximum of £1.50 per cottage is now proposed by the Government 21st (November) for a period of one year.

be provided for can be fairly closely ascertained, but the calculations of an outlying district may at any moment be upset by the whim of any large factory owner or other employer of labour who comes or goes, or possibly by the sudden planting of a new colony from one or more of the adjoining urban communities. The liability of each district is, it is true, limited to the produce of a penny rate, but in such a case there may well arise considerations as to the need for additional education and other expenditure which will fall upon the district.

Various proposals have been under consideration for securing a representative housing authority for Greater London, on which all existing authorities could be represented, and also for some system of equalising the burden of rates. So far, such proposals have not come to fruition, but the need for a co-ordinating authority to deal with such matters as housing, transit, town-planning and arterial roads, is evident to all. The whole of these matters are crying out to be dealt with immediately, and it is not overstating the case to say that the whole principle of local self-government in these matters is on its trial.

Greater London within the fifteen-mile radius is made up of 120 more or less self-governing authorities, each with its council, whose duty it is to protect the interest of its own locality, and each is naturally anxious to secure the best results for its penny rate within its own borders. It is no part of the business of the local authority to consider what are the needs even of its immediate neighbour, hence the problem of London as a whole still awaits solution. Under such circumstances, it is not easy for a local authority to arrive at a decision as to the full extent of the need for housing in its area, and there is a tendency in most cases to under-estimate the need rather than the reverse. Another consequence is that the housing sites thus chosen have little relation to the general needs of London, and sometimes even less relation to the schemes of the immediately adjoining districts. The question therefore arises in what way the needs of London as a whole can best be met.

#### NEW GARDEN CITIES.

From time to time suggestions have been made for the creation of a number of new garden cities in the present agricultural areas on the fringe of Greater London. The L.C.C. Eastern site at Dagenham, consisting of 3,000 acres, affords a magnificent opportunity for comprehensive development. Following on the successful experiment of Letchworth, a second garden city is proposed near Welwyn, partly within the Hatfield rural district, and there can be no doubt that the immediate demand for houses in the London area is sufficient to fill at least eight such garden cities even for residential use only. It should, of course, be remembered that the complete ideal of such a city is a self-contained industrial community. Such a proposal, to be successful, must, however, come from a central authority or a public utility society able to command a considerable amount of capital.

#### JOINT ACTION BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

A combination of local authorities could, of course, also secure the same results, and such a suggestion has in fact been made in a similar case of several important authorities in South-East London, and other cases of joint schemes are under consideration. One such example of authorities actually combining in a joint scheme would be worth a great deal to London at the present time. The necessary powers are provided by the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919, but, so far as London is concerned, have not yet been tested.

#### STATUTORY POWERS.

The powers entrusted to local authorities under the Housing Act which became law on 31st July are in many ways remarkable. They can build an unlimited number of houses, and, whether they build many or few, their own liability is limited to a penny rate over their district. They can purchase approved houses as they are completed by the builders. They can purchase land or houses

by compulsory powers, and enter into possession within fourteen days of the confirmation of the compulsory order by the Ministry. They can serve notice on any owner to put his property into habitable repair, and, if necessary, do the work themselves and charge him with it. They can take shares in or lend money to a public utility society. They can divide houses into tenements. They can lend money to private persons to improve or convert their property, or to acquire their own houses up to £800 in value. They can relax their by-laws to any extent necessary that may be approved by the Ministry of Health.

A very important provision in the Act, introduced at a late stage in its progress, gives the Ministry power, in cases where they think necessary, to insist on the employment of an architect to be chosen from a panel supplied by the R.I.B.A. The section in question reads as follows :—

Sec. 1 (3) In order to secure that the houses proposed to be built under the scheme shall be of a suitable architecture and that the natural amenities of the locality shall not be unnecessarily injured, the Local Government Board may, in any case where it appears to them that the character of the locality renders such a course expedient, require as a condition of their approval the employment by the local authority of an architect to be selected from a panel of architects nominated for the purpose by the Royal Institute of British Architects.

#### PROCEDURE.

Most, if not all, of the important local authorities have appointed an architect at an early stage, but there still remain a few authorities who have not yet done so.

Most of those present will be aware of the formalities required in submitting a scheme for approval. Once the authority have got a good architect, the procedure is simplicity itself, and the various official forms are not by any means so formidable as they appear at first sight.

#### SITE.

After having taken their architect's advice as to sites generally, the local authority notify the Housing Commissioner of any site or sites that may be proposed. An inspection is at once made, and general approval, or otherwise, notified, subject to the valuation being satisfactory. The District Valuer of the Inland Revenue Department should then be instructed to negotiate with the owner for the purchase. Failing successful negotiation, he will supply a valuation and advise acquisition by compulsory order, the price being subsequently fixed by an independent arbitrator.

#### LAY-OUT AND HOUSE PLANS.

There is, however, no need for the scheme to be hung up by any question of valuation. So soon as the site is generally approved, the architect should be instructed to proceed at once with the lay-out and house plans, and submit them in pencil to the Commissioner's office. Generally, a couple of personal visits will complete the business, and the plans can then be finished off, and tenders obtained. The points of importance as to lay-out are :—(1) Access to town and industries, railway and road communication ; (2) aspect of houses ; (3) economy in road construction and drainage work. The width of roadways should be limited to that required for actual use. It should be noted that approach roads and sewers are not generally chargeable to the housing scheme. The general rule is that whatever could be charged to a private owner might reasonably be charged to the scheme.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that economy, both in dimensions and details, is all-important. Small modifications in this respect when the plans are in the pencil stage will often save more serious and drastic modifications after the tenders are received.

The *Local Government Board Manual* should be regarded as suggestive, and is not intended to hamper architects in the free exercise of their design. In view of the high tenders now being received, a slight modification in the sizes suggested by the *Manual* may be allowed. The following limiting dimensions should as far as possible be observed :—

*Maximum super. areas of ground-floor plan.*

A.—Living room, scullery, etc., three bedrooms	..	578 square feet.
B.—Parlour, living room, scullery, three bedrooms	..	620 .. ..
B4.—Parlour, living room, scullery, four bedrooms	..	650 .. ..

## PROPORTIONS OF VARIOUS TYPES.

The proportion of the various types to be adopted in each scheme requires in every case special consideration as to the needs of the locality, and the battle between the parlour and the non-parlour types is still going on in many districts. To keep the average cost low, a reasonable proportion of small-type houses should be introduced in each section of the estate.

The proportions of various types usually desired are :—

75 per cent.	3 bedroom houses, with or without parlours, as desired.
10 .. .. 4 .. ..	
15 .. .. 2 .. ..	or cottage flats.

The high tenders now being received make it for the time being necessary to reduce the dimensions of the houses to the lowest possible terms, consistent with efficient housekeeping. The sizes of rooms may be slightly reduced, but the principal item of saving may still be effected by omitting the treasured parlour and reverting to the original, or A, type house, with a living room, scullery, and three bedrooms. Much may be said for and against the parlour, but there can be no gainsaying that even with the single living room house it is possible to attain a very high standard of comfort and refinement. Many architects, in building their own houses or bungalows, have adopted this form of plan, and there is no reason why for a small family it should not be equally serviceable as the more expensive and dearer-rented parlour house.

## DETAILS OF HOUSE PLANS.

Despite repeated exhortations as to economy, there are frequently to be found in plans submitted a lordly scullery, a palatial larder, and accommodation for something like five tons of coal. The sink and bath wastes are frequently to be found widely separated, and it cannot be too strongly emphasised that economy in house drains, plumbing, etc., by the grouping of sanitary arrangements is essential. The bath upstairs is generally found preferable for London conditions, though it is easier to plan it downstairs in the case of a four-bedroom house. The w.c. may be in the bath-room, but is preferably separate.

BLOCK TENEMENTS *versus* COTTAGES.

The block tenement has to a large extent had its day, but in the inner metropolitan boroughs, the limited amount of available land and the high price of such land, averaging anything up to £5,000, or even £10,000 an acre, render the occasional use of such blocks of tenements unavoidable. It should, however, be recognised that such instances are the exception and not the rule, and the State must perforce consider carefully the detailed proposals for all such buildings. At the present cost of building, many comparatively modest proposals for block dwellings will involve the State in a subsidy of something like 30s. per week for each family housed in dwellings of this type, as compared with less than half that amount in respect of families housed in cottage homes a few miles out, in far more pleasant conditions.

The English ideal has always been the cottage in preference to the Continental tenement dwelling, and it is to be hoped that the idea of one family one house may long remain as our national tradition.

## MATERIALS.

Some anxiety has been felt as to the supply of the requisite materials for the unprecedented number of houses now required, and a special Department for the supply of building materials has been set up under the Ministry of Supply (D.B.M.S., Caxton House, Westminster). Complete schedules showing the prices at which various materials can be supplied, through the agency of this department, are supplied to each local authority, to be embodied in the contract with the builder in the usual way. The difficulties that may arise as to materials are likely to be questions of *transport* rather than of actual supply. Every endeavour is meantime being made, by experiment and otherwise, to ascertain whether it is possible to utilise any new materials of construction.

Much has been heard lately of the wooden house, but so far as the London region is concerned, no one has yet proposed to erect one, though there are, of course, innumerable proposals for the temporary adaptation of Army huts.

Experiments are being made with hollow-tile construction, and twenty-eight bungalows of this construction are in course of erection by the Harrow authorities, and other forms of this material are under consideration.

Concrete construction is proposed in several instances, and the fertile inventor has been particularly busy with new ideas in this direction. So far, however, the experiments in new forms of concrete construction have not met with much encouragement from local authorities. A number of enterprising manufacturers are willing to erect sample houses, and it should not be difficult to provide facilities for their erection. An exhibition of the actual article in the neighbourhood of London would in most cases be of considerable value in judging the merits of any of these new forms of construction. Every encouragement should be given to the use of any materials to be found on the spot.

## LABOUR.

The question of labour is also likely to prove of some difficulty, and in this respect every endeavour should be made to avoid the use of materials or processes which involve extra labour. The whole of the country's building trade, at its busiest period, only succeeded in erecting about 100,000 houses per annum. With reduced man-power, and possibly reduced output, the problem of building double that number for two or three years is not an easy one, but the builders may be relied upon to leave no brick unturned to achieve the necessary result.

The possibility of employing as many local builders as can be brought into the scheme in each district is now engaging the attention of the authorities. The proposal, put shortly, is that the builders with experience in estate developing should, either singly or in federation, come to an agreement with the local authority and the Housing Commissioner, under which they will build houses to an agreed plan, such houses to be taken over by the local authority on completion, at an agreed price. It is proposed that the agreed plan should be as nearly as possible the particular type of house which the builder has been accustomed to erect, but with such improvements or modifications as may be suggested by the architect employed by the Council, particularly with a view to avoiding such monotonous repetition as characterises the ordinary suburban street.

## THE QUESTION OF "QUANTITIES."

The question whether quantities should or should not be supplied to builders tendering in the ordinary way is not one which often arises in the London area, where "quantities" are general, but in rural districts where only a few houses are proposed, the local builders have been accustomed to price their tenders without the aid of quantities. Such a practice is not, however, generally desirable or necessary in or near London. A model specification has been issued by the Ministry, and



considerable labour is saved by its adoption with as few alterations as possible. There are cases, however, where a saving may be effected, as, for example, in the use of ordinary stoneware pipes in lieu of "British standard tested."

#### TENDERS.

Tenders have already been accepted for approaching £1,000,000 worth of work in the London area. This amount is probably only about one-fiftieth of the whole of the work actually under way, so that there is at present insufficient data available to generalise as to costs, but detailed information on this head is being rapidly accumulated.

#### METHODS OF TENDERING.

In addition to the usual lump sum method of tendering, a number of other methods of obtaining prices have been suggested. With the present fluctuations in the price of labour and materials, it is in any case necessary to provide for a sliding scale arrangement by which any variation or alteration in this respect can be provided for. Clause 40 of the Ministry's Model Form of Contract is intended to provide for this contingency:—

40. (b) *Adjustment of Contract price due to change in cost of labour.*—If between the date of delivery of the Contractor's tender and the date of completion of the works comprised in the Contract, alterations in the rates of wages of the trades engaged in carrying out this Contract or any sub-contracts thereunder shall be agreed upon by the National Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades and confirmed by the Government, such alterations shall be made and given effect to in the wages paid to workmen employed on this Contract or sub-contracts and the sum payable in respect of the works comprised in the Contract or sub-contracts shall be proportionately increased or decreased, as the case may be, to cover the aforesaid alterations in wages and any consequent variations in insurance payments relating thereto, but on the basis that any adjustment of the contract price due to such increase or decrease in the wages paid as compared with those ruling at the date of delivery of the Tender shall be a net addition or deduction, as the case may be, without any increase or decrease of profit by reason of such alterations in wages.

(c) *Adjustment of Contract price due to change in cost of materials.*—If between the date of delivery of the Contractor's tender and the date of the completion of the works comprised in this Contract alterations shall take place in the cost of any materials, which are used in the execution of the said works and to which this Clause relates, then the sum payable to the Contractor shall be proportionately increased or decreased, as the case may be, to cover the aforesaid alterations in cost, but on the basis that any adjustment of the Contract price shall, as in the case of alterations in wages under the preceding paragraph, be a net addition or deduction, as the case may be, without any increase or decrease of profit.

The cost plus percentage basis of tendering is not generally desirable for new housing schemes, unless the profit is limited. A somewhat novel form of tender has recently been under consideration, on a basis of prime cost with a lump sum added to cover plant, administrative expenses and profit. Provided a definite agreement can be made as to what is to be included in the prime cost, the suggested method has a good deal to be said for it, though it is undoubtedly more satisfactory to know, before starting, exactly what the work may be expected to cost.

Several local authorities are pressing to be allowed to build by "direct labour." The Ministry already allow roads and sewers to be so carried out, but as regards building work they have not yet made this concession.

#### FINANCE.

Another important consideration, much to the fore at present, is the question of finance. Where is the money to come from? The Treasury have laid down the rule that all authorities with a rateable value over £200,000 should be expected to find their own capital. This is no doubt quite feasible in the case of many of the manufacturing cities of the Midlands and the North, but it cannot be denied that for the larger suburban authorities in the neighbourhood of London the position is one of considerable difficulty, especially in the case of local authorities whose local rates are as high as 15s. or 16s. in the £. A Treasury Committee has, however, been set up to consider the question of housing finance, and it is hoped that a decision on this important matter will be reached at an early

date. In certain quarters a special housing loan is suggested, and it is believed this would meet with popular favour.

For authorities of less rateable value than £200,000, the position is much clearer, although even here it is expected that local authorities will raise their own resources as far as possible, in order to prevent excessive calls upon the funds of the Public Works Loan Board. The total amount to be expended in Greater London for housing purposes will probably be some £50,000,000, and it is essential, not only that the capital shall be carefully husbanded, but that interest charges and other annual outgoings shall be reduced to an absolute minimum.

#### TRANSIT.

Housing and transit must be considered together. The cost of the additional travelling involved in living at some distance from one's work is a matter which should be taken into serious consideration, as the daily fare is, in many cases, the governing factor which, in the first place, influences a man in the choice of his location. Cheap fares and good trains have done a great deal to popularise outlying districts such as Golder's Green and Purley. Rapid transit must in any case go hand in hand with housing, and each, without the other, is incomplete.

Electrification of all suburban railways is a thing of the immediate future, and, at the same time, a large number of new arterial roads and the multiplication of road vehicles are equally essential. At present the congestion of tubes, omnibuses and trams during the rush hours is terrific, and, if it is to go on, many of us would prefer to live in London, even in a tall tenement.

The congestion of buildings and the congestion of traffic, however, go almost hand in hand, and

it certainly is no solution to build tall tenements, or even longer railway carriages. There is a limit to the number of trains which can be run in a given time, and, strange as it may appear, there is a limit to the number of passengers who can be got into a train. More trains cannot be run on a line which is already full up; hence the only feasible solution is either to build more lines, or to find the people employment nearer home, in other words, to decentralise industries wherever possible.

In addition to passenger congestion, to be seen everywhere, there is also in London a very serious problem of goods congestion and dock congestion. Faster goods services; faster methods of unloading and discharging cargoes are all receiving the attention of the railway and other companies. The whole problem of the port and industrial development of London requires special consideration. When it is considered that the docks of London are within an hour or so by motor of a population larger than that of the whole of Australia and New Zealand, and



LONDON HOUSES TO BE CONVERTED INTO FLATS  
(Some 1500 houses are being dealt with.)

that this population has to be served with the whole of its vital necessities, the need for better communication is evident.

The proper housing of the workers must be considered as an important part, but a part only, of the great problem of London development.

## DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*, in the Chair.

Mr. BERNARD HOLLAND (Chairman of the Housing Committee of the London County Council): I have been asked to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Davidge for his extremely lucid and interesting lecture. I have had much to do with Mr. Davidge in the last few months, and I think the relations between the London Housing Board and the County Council have been quite friendly. It was not exactly a case of love at first sight, because it cost a little to give up the full liberty and independence which we, as a great local authority, had enjoyed in housing operations. But we are getting accustomed to it, and I think we shall work very well with the Government authority. The necessity of this was due, no doubt, partly to the general situation, which made it necessary to build at a financial loss—which you could not put entirely on the local authority—and partly also to the extreme anarchy which prevails among the authorities in and around London; some being great, some small, some rich, some poor, and none of them having worked in co-operation with one another. I hope that some day there will be a new constitution for Greater London; that it will be a large province, with its own financial means, and with much more liberty and freedom from that interference which is now necessary from the central authorities. Our Council had gone on in a quiet and modest way before the war stopped operations under Parts I and III. We had developed three or four estates round London. But we were not under great pressure, for private enterprise, which has been responsible for building dwellings ever since the people lived in clay wigwams, could build more than all the new accommodation required. If I were asked why we wanted more money for developing estates, I could only say that we ought to set an example in building and in estate management, and in slum clearances. In regard to the latter, we ought to have spent more money on improving slums in London; but so many subjects were pressing for the Council's attention that it was often very difficult to find the money for slum clearances. Mr. Davidge touched on one problem which is the most difficult of all in connection with slum clearances, namely, how far you are to re-house the displaced population in the centre, which can only be done by putting up high buildings. If one were pursuing an ideal, one would like to clear festering slum spots, and devote most of the sites to the provision of open spaces. But you are such a long way off the circumference, where new houses can be provided, that it is difficult for people to live four or

five miles away from their daily work. The trouble is that so many factories are in the centre. Possibly some day there may be legislation by which owners of factories will be induced to remove them to the outskirts. Until that is done it is difficult to find a solution, for you can only house a much smaller population on the slum sites you clear than that living there before the clearance; and so cannot re-house them in the central areas without putting up high buildings. The high buildings we put up are eagerly sought after, and at the present time we have not a room vacant. It would be difficult to say that we should not have these buildings at all. Much as I should like to have open spaces with good cottages, it must be remembered that one cottage requires the space of three slum dwellings, so that you cannot accommodate the same number of people in cottages on the same space. I should like to return my own thanks to the President and Council of this Institute for giving me the opportunity of hearing this interesting paper. I have always had the greatest respect for architects because of the permanence of their work. I have always thought that, for this reason, I would rather be an architect than editor of the largest morning paper. We have been very ably assisted by architects on our Council. We have had Mr. Riley—who has just retired, I am sorry to say. With the usual modesty of Englishmen, we appointed an Irishman, and now have appointed a Scotsman. I think that the ideal architect would be a Scotsman and an Irishman rolled into one, for you want that fund of imagination which is attributed to the Irish, and the practical solidity attributed to the Scotch. When you get those qualities combined in the same man you have, I imagine, as perfect an architect as you could have. We owe much to Mr. Riley, and I am sure we shall owe a great deal to Mr. Forrest.

Mr. DUNCAN WATSON (Mayor of Marylebone): It gives me very much pleasure indeed to second the vote of thanks for the excellent paper which we have heard from Mr. Davidge. One of his interesting points was the removal of 200 slums from London, and my friend who has just spoken referred to the practical abilities of the Scotsman on the question of architecture. I might remind him—to the shame of my fellow-countrymen—that the worst slums in the Kingdom, I think, are those of Glasgow and Edinburgh. Speaking from the civic point of view, I realise the difficulty contingent on a question of this sort with regard to finance. Finance to-day frightens us on any question of either building or—a matter on which I am closely

associated—electricity, because so much depends on the cost. Mr. Davidge referred to labour, materials and finance, and on the cost of labour and materials depends the financial aspect. It was an interesting fact that two-thirds of the demands for houses were for houses of not more than five rooms. Mr. Davidge also mentioned that, owing to the estimates received, they had had to curtail the size of the various rooms. It occurred to me, looking at the matter very broadly, and not exactly from an architectural point of view, but rather from the communal standpoint, that those who are engaged in public work have a great responsibility in the education of the people, those people who have a direct influence on the cost of production—not only the material, but the building of houses. There are, to my mind, two influences that bear very largely on this question of cost, and I regard them as common forms of suicide: one of them long known as common in the East, the other threatening the West. I refer to "harikari," and "ca' canny." We shall be on the downgrade so long as we have a "ca' canny movement," so long as people who are directly interested in the cheapening of housing for the working classes will not see that to deliberately lessen production, whilst desiring to get more of the good things of life, is to indulge in a sort of fratricidal hallucination which is a positive danger to the State. It must be within the compass of everyone to do something in this great movement, and, by education, obtain a better understanding with those who have it in their power to help us. Not only Greater London, but the whole country will be the better for it. Mr. Davidge also referred to another of our great troubles—that of transport. While this housing question is engaging the attention of architects, it does seem to me, judging from what I saw in America early this year, that an excellent solution offers itself of the problem of the conservation of coal, and the production of a smokeless city. It may not be known to you, but in many of the large cities what we use in our fires here, the soft coal, is prohibited altogether, and they have brought central heating to a very fine art in the use of hard coal of the anthracite variety. The grouping of houses under these schemes offers a magnificent opportunity for central heating on the most economical lines and the achievement of a smokeless community. I think the question of transit and the electrical schemes will be developed together. Within a very short time the whole question of Greater London, taking a radius of 20 miles from the Tower of London, will, in the matter of power, come under one comprehensive scheme, and we shall, I hope, at last realise the advantages from this wonderful science, which they have benefited so largely from in America, where they have unification of conditions of supply. London has grown up in so many different communities, with differences of voltage and so on, that there are difficulties in the way of uniformity, and consequent delay in arriving at what we desire, a cheap and ready supply of electricity without unnecessary

trouble. All the different routes to London will be electrified, and that, of course, will give better transit to the outlying districts, and will, I hope, revolutionise the housekeeping of even the poorer class. I have seen in America, and I saw also in Germany many years ago, how electricity was being used by the "Frau" of the workman to the greatest possible advantage, and where domestic labour was reduced to an almost infinitesimal amount, and mother and housewife were thereby enabled to devote more time and attention to the bringing up of the family in health. That, to my mind, is one of the great features of this housing problem. The coming generation must be "A1," not "C3." Speaking generally, the whole question is one which must be dealt with comprehensively. Mr. Davidge referred to the difficulties of getting the various communities in London into one harmonious whole. The parish pump plays the diversity factor, and it is difficult to get the various communities into line, therefore the Imperial Government will have to bring about concerted action. With regard to Kensington, Marylebone and Westminster, the alteration of houses and the building of taller houses, this will depend very largely on the width of the particular street. If you intend to build higher houses, you will have to widen your street, and you have to look, too, to the question of the subsoil. It is not, as Mr. Davidge well said, a matter which can be dealt with by rule of thumb: each community requires a different treatment. There is no doubt that what is being done is an excellent means to an end, which I trust will, in a very short time, solve the housing problem.

Mr. JAMES P. ORR, C.S.I., C.B.E. (Chief Housing Officer, London County Council): As a new-comer to this city—for, though a Londoner, I have been thirty years in India—I shall not burden you with a long speech, but I would like to say a few words in support of this vote of thanks. It has given me great pleasure both to hear the lecture and to see such an audience assembled to hear of what is being done to tackle the London housing problem. I am afraid to commit myself to very definite opinions at present: I have a great deal to learn, coming from a place where the slum problem is even more acute than here, but conditions are quite different. In Bombay the slums are infinitely worse than any you can show me in Glasgow or Edinburgh—and I am very glad to be able to say this in mitigation of the seconder's denunciation of Scotch slums, for I am a Scotsman myself. Coming from that atmosphere, where things seem quite hopeless, to the atmosphere of England, I feel very much more hopeful, especially when I know there are so many gentlemen of the R.I.B.A. taking part in the solution of the problem. *Prima facie*—for, as I say, I shall not commit myself to definite opinions until I have gained more local experience—to my mind the main part of the problem is to prevent the expansion of industries in the centre of London, to prevent the erection of further factories there, and

remove some of those that are there into the outer suburbs as soon as possible, so that you can have your workmen living where they work, and so prevent the intensification of congestion of population and traffic which ensues when you take people into the outskirts to live and require them to come into the town daily to their work. In seconding this vote of thanks I would take the opportunity of saying, on behalf of the Bombay authorities, if I may, how grateful we are to the Institute for having sent to us a very excellent architect for the Improvement Trust in Bombay, Mr. Hawkins, who is doing excellent work there. In a few years' time there will be plenty of work for R.I.B.A. men in India, and I hope some of them will go there to infuse into the attack on the slum problem in India some of the spirit which I see prevalent here in London. I am sure that with Mr. Davidge as the Chief Advising Officer of the London Housing Board we shall have many of our difficulties smoothed down, and I am sure I may say, on behalf of the other officers of the London County Council, who have done me the honour of appointing me to be their Director of Housing, that Mr. Davidge and all workers who will come to assist in the solution of this problem will get the utmost measure of support from those who are working there, under the Council, at this problem.

Professor BERESFORD PITE: I should like to congratulate our colleague, Mr. Davidge, on the important position in which he has been placed with regard to this subject of housing, a position which, we have no doubt, he will adorn, also congratulating ourselves that he is so efficient, travelled and sympathetic a person. There are many interesting things in Mr. Davidge's review of history. How wonderfully she repeats herself, and what a wonderful scent Mr. Davidge has. How did he find out the interesting facts in the wonderful paper he gave them some years ago on the growth of London,\* the building regulations as they developed through the centuries—the incidents in Elizabethan times and at the period of the Great Fire—all of them just as interesting as the use of fish on Friday to pacify the commercial interest. Such questions were as alive then as they are now. Crowding in the time of Charles II was the subject of legislative effort and of organisation, and we are face to face with it again. I should like to very warmly congratulate Mr. Raymond Unwin, who, I think, must be present here now in spirit if not materially, on the influence of his doctrines upon the series of plans shown. If anyone can conceive a series of estates plans such as those I was bred on forty years ago, and compare them with the laying-out of the estates we have been shown to-night, he will realise that some hand has been at work dictating new methods, lines, areas, spaces and frontage lines, very different from those under which London grew so rapidly half a century ago. I am not exaggerating when I say we must regard Unwin's teaching as of the

very greatest importance in the change that has taken place. The change is very remarkable, and its issue will be seen in the life and happiness of the tenants of every one of these houses. In regard to none of these schemes can any suggestion be made that the houses are crowded together, or that they are laid out on monotonous or uninteresting lines. I am a little doubtful, myself, as to the economy of architectural effects. When we come to face housing economy we may ask why people should put huge big roofs over houses with nothing inside them? We have seen to-night illustrations of a number of gables, apparently none below 15°, with, apparently, nothing inside them, not even a box-room. That is bad from the standpoint of economy: it is costly in timber and in tiles, and it is empty in result. The old-fashioned brick box with a slate lid was economical, to which I have no artistic objection, and I cannot understand the mysterious doctrine which says a steep roof is picturesque. I believe our forefathers thought differently, because they pulled down steep roofs and put, instead, flat roofs, and modern revivalists have followed the same lines. Roofs unnecessarily steep are uneconomically steep. But why not fall back on the economical curb, the Mansard roof, which is ultimately economical? Whether there is an architectural tad in directing the pitch of the roofs or not, a high-pitched roof is economical if you put a room inside it. But please get rid of prejudice as to the artistic value of one form of roof. Go for the thing simply and directly on economical lines; the artistic result will then come to you—and it is much more likely to come satisfactorily than if you seek to engender an artistic idea and then apply it to a housing scheme. Let the housing scheme work itself out, and the artistic element will come.

Professor S. D. ADSHEAD [F.]: I sympathise and agree with all that Professor Beresford Pite said with regard to the sympathetic way in which Mr. Davidge has always approached this subject. The whole profession should congratulate itself on having so sympathetic a supporter of housing and house architecture as Mr. Davidge in leading the technicalities concerning London houses. It has been said that history repeats itself, and I would go a little farther back than Mr. Davidge. Gracchus, in the year 137 B.C., put forward a Small Holding Bill to induce the inhabitants of Rome to go into the country to live. But they were so endeared to the great city that Gracchus, after tremendous efforts, saw his measure defeated. It is a very controversial question whether it is better to erect tall flats of four or five storeys on expensive land, or depend upon cottages. Before the war it was almost a settled policy that it was only feasible to put up tall buildings on very expensive land. But to-day, whilst land is of practically the same value as it was before the war—possibly even a little cheaper—in many cases buildings have gone up in price as much as 300 per cent. That being so, I believe it is a financially better speculation to put up two-storey cottages

\* "The Development of London and the London Building Acts" [JOURNAL R.I.B.A., 11th April 1914].

than five-storey flats on land that is not more than £5,000 per acre, and where houses are not more than 25 to the acre. I had a case before me very recently in which two propositions were worked out: one in which it was proposed to put up five-storey flats, and the other for two-storey cottages. Of course, the population could not be housed in the same density in cottages as in flats, but as a financial speculation the cottages worked out better.

Professor A. E. RICHARDSON [F.]: I should like to ask Mr. Davidge a pertinent question. Has the map showing the development of London which was prepared by the London Society, partly, I believe, under the direction of Mr. Davidge, been adopted by the various municipal authorities, and by the Local Government Board? This procedure I consider to be essential in connection with the housing schemes now being realised as well as those projected to form the outer works of London. On principle I am opposed to the system of decentralisation. London as it has grown in the past has completely spoiled portions of the home counties, mainly on account of the mushroom growths of satellite industrial centres. In addition we have witnessed the greed of the railway companies who have acquired lands on either side of the trunk lines for 20 miles out of London in order to encourage haphazard factory buildings. If decentralisation means the multiplication of such centres indefinitely and not according to plan it is utterly wrong. First, we must settle the desirable locale for factories and then arrange for dormitory districts and convenient transport. The improvement of communal centres and the creation of healthful residential areas will not be attained until some system of control (on the lines indicated on the London Society's map) is defined. There is another issue which needs supervision, and that is the preservation and tidying up of the inner suburbs. Old residential districts (once fashionable) such as Highbury, Canonbury, Pentonville and Clapton, contain terraces of well-built houses with magnificent squares and streets. These houses could be inexpensively converted into maisonettes for all sections of workers, and London near the centre could be beautified and its historical character preserved. Such procedure is theoretically correct, for not only would some parts of the problem of transport be solved, but the present demand for accommodation could be met expeditiously. Surely it is as well to make use of a tangible asset as it is to raise gabled travesties of old-time cottages (with roofs of uneconomical form) such as those mentioned by Professor Beresford Pite, bricked and tiled in the wilds of no man's land.

Mr. M. S. BRIGGS [F.]: As architect for the London housing schemes, there is a question which I am often asked and have to attempt to answer—viz., with regard to an alternative form of contract. It is very important that we should be informed whether the system of competitive tendering is disapproved by the Ministry, and whether they can give

us information which will guide us in answering questions which are put to us by the Councils by whom we are employed. I understand that the system of lump sum *plus* profits and the checking of accounts when the houses are finished is favoured in many districts. Whether it is to encourage local builders, or whether it has the effect of reducing tenders, is what we should like to know, especially those of us who have been away some years from the country and from our work.

The PRÉSIDENT: We have been favoured to-night by an expert on an exceptionally interesting subject, which he has treated with that mastery which only comes of knowledge. His paper has been supplemented by most interesting remarks from gentlemen who have to administer these schemes. We are greatly indebted to the chairman of the Housing Committee of the London County Council, to the Mayor of Marylebone, and to the Chief Housing Officer of the County Council for their presence here to-night; they have helped us to an extremely interesting discussion. Mr. Davidge, curiously enough, touched on a subject of great interest to me—the early endeavours to restrict the growth of towns. He spoke of the Elizabethan and later attempts, and quoted Tom Gwynn in 1766. Earlier than that, Louis XIV, and his predecessors, were extremely concerned about the growth of the city of Paris. They were terribly upset about it, fearing that if the growth of the city continued at the same rate they would never be able to feed the people. And they therefore proposed various means to put a stop to it. One of them was to set down stones, which you will find indicated on old plans of Paris, marking the limits beyond which people were not to build any houses at all. That went on for a time, and then it was discovered that people had built houses beyond these limits; and it is not clear that the Housing Commissions of the time did not know something about it, because they mysteriously acquired great riches and disappeared from the scene. There were the houses, and it would have meant a great loss and upset to have pulled them down. So the limiting stones had to be put further back. This was continually being done: these limits were being pushed further and further out, yet without stopping the growth of Paris. But on listening to the discussion to-night, it strikes me that, although their efforts were ineffectual, they were right. They would have done well, after the outer border had been reached, to have insisted on new centres being formed, with a band or belt of open ground intervening. I was extremely struck the other day by a Report which bears the name of Mr. Davidge, in which that suggestion was put forward definitely and clearly, namely, that fresh centres should be formed at definite intervals all round London, and that they should form the natural extension and growth of London. How far it may be possible to carry out a logical scheme of that sort it is difficult to say; there are so many interests and so many obstacles; but the principle is, I think, perfectly sound. There is one thing I want to say to



all architects. It is, that the interests of architects are those of the Government. We want to help the Government to get these houses built in every possible way, and I ask architects to contribute towards the solution of their difficulties. One of the great difficulties is cost; we *must* get the cost of houses down. How that is to be done I cannot suggest to you to-night, but that is what our minds must be bent towards accomplishing; and we must do what we can to expedite the erection of them. Then comes the question of standards, and nobody in this room will suggest that the standard of design or construction should be lowered; on the contrary. Professor Pite made an allusion which was extremely interesting to me—viz., as to the effect of Mr. Unwin's theory on the plans which we have seen to-night. That is a perfectly proper and loyal acknowledgment of Mr. Unwin's services. We know Mr. Unwin, and respect him very highly; but we must remember that even before Mr. Unwin took this matter up, Camille Sitte, the Austrian architect, had laid down these principles; and, if Professor Pite's memory goes back as far, he will remember many years ago he and I contributed papers\* on that subject to this Institute, before the town-planning business ever came up.

Mr. DAVIDGE, replying to the vote, said: I am particularly appreciative of the valuable additions to the paper which have emerged from the discussion. I am not alone in remembering the President's famous paper on the Planning of Cities. I have a warm recollection of it, and there are many others of us who have, too. To me it has always been a great inspiration, and I would advise everyone to look it up. Out of over 300 schemes in hand, I have only been able to show illustrations of 20 or 30, and I much regret not being able to show some of the others, which are even better. And they do not all run into the kind of roofs which Professor Pite deplored. In the schemes there are varieties of almost flat roofs, and some with steep pitches. They vary, and I hope will continue to vary. With regard to Gracchus, I should like to ask Professor Ad-head whether Gracchus found any way of dealing with the allotment problem, because it is sometimes difficult to decide upon the relative importance of allotments or housing. With regard to Professor Richardson's enquiries, the site of every scheme is put down on the London Society's map, so that we may see how it will work in with regard to the arterial roads contemplated in the scheme for the development of Greater London. In every case where it is necessary to put a site on a line of road, we take care that an alternative road is there, and that line of route is kept open for the future. One matter of special interest has emerged from the discussion—viz., that the movement towards decentralisation of industries, and, of course, dwelling-houses, is under way. As regards slum clearances, you cannot clear slums

away in a few months. It is a matter of a life-time's steady and persistent effort. But under such leadership as the London County Council and their Housing Committee we may hope that the problem will be consistently dealt with.

#### The Housing Problem.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—Having come from New Zealand to visit the latest developments in town-planning and housing, I was deeply interested in the Paper read by Mr. Davidge at our meeting last week. It was an excellent Paper, because he was able to give a clear idea of the very large amount of work now being undertaken by the various local authorities under the general direction of the Minister for Health and under the immediate supervision of the District Housing Commissioners. I had the pleasure of accompanying Mr. Davidge in his tour of inspection to the West and North-west of London, and was deeply impressed by the activity taking place on every hand.

In some cases the excavations were being silently made, but in the majority of cases there was a "hum of industry" arising from the vigorous operations of bricklayers and carpenters—a "hum" that will surely soon penetrate the sanctums—and perhaps disturb the peace of mind—of those editors who now forcibly acclaim that "the Government are doing nothing."

What impressed me most was the enthusiasm being shown by all concerned—the Borough Engineers and Surveyors, the contractors and the workmen. It was refreshing to note the evident pride they took in their work as part of a *National scheme*. The manner, too, in which they looked to the Controlling Authority for guidance and help, the evident desire that what they were doing should meet with approval, was to my mind a very strong justification indeed for the system of control now in operation.

But though we may approve very warmly the activity which is being displayed by local authorities under the jurisdiction of the Government, we may hold very strong views as to the wisdom of the general policy under which those activities are being carried on. The question of housing is being considered quite apart from any consideration for the industrial welfare of those who are to occupy the houses when built. I could get no answer to my queries. What is to be the occupation of the people who are to live in them? Where will their places of work be? Are there enough industries near at hand, which can be carried on in an economical manner to provide employment for the people you are building for? If not, is it possible to start such industries? These very vital questions could not be answered, for they had never been considered as part of the housing scheme.

In all the housing schemes I have as yet examined, both here and in Scotland, I have looked in vain for

\* "The Planning of Cities and Public Spaces" [JOURNAL R.I.B.A., 8th April, 1905].



any scheme of industries in relation to them—and this in spite of the very comprehensive report presented to the Government by the Commission set up to consider the question of housing for ex-service men—a report which I believe is known as the “Verney Report.” In this report the close association of industry and housing is warmly advocated. Those of us who are disciples of Mr. Ebenezer Howard, and recognise the value of those principles he so ably laid down in his epoch-making book, *The Garden Cities of To-morrow*, rejoiced greatly to think that the Government, by the acceptance of this report, were thus recognising the soundness of the views expressed, and were prepared to follow the example set at Letchworth, where Mr. Howard’s principles have been largely carried out.

I am surprised to find that this wonderful industrial town—the First Garden City—Mr. Raymond Unwin’s realisation of Mr. Ebenezer Howard’s dream—is not as widely known in England as it should be. I found it was not known that there are forty industries there carried out under such favourable circumstances that not only is it the most healthy industrial town, but it is actually the most healthy town when compared with the “health resorts” of England and other places. And it is not sufficiently known that this industrial city has been laid out and surrounded with its parks and agricultural lands in such a way that people are attracted to it as a place of residence in their retirement.

The Housing Problem is as acute in New Zealand as elsewhere, and I endeavoured to persuade our Government to build the necessary houses in a series of garden industrial cities, each in the midst of suitable agricultural land on a line of railway or good arterial road, and—in order that they might be self-contained as far as possible—a good supply of cheap electric current for power and lighting purposes. Given electric power, all the industries required in any settlement can be carried on with the best modern machines in a perfectly economical manner as village industries, either as supplementary to agriculture or by those members of the community who have no inclination to work on the land.

I came to England in the hope of finding many examples tending to prove that this is the right principle to adopt, and am surprised to find that Letchworth is still the only one. A striking, convincing example it is true, but as yet it has not been followed either by the Government or by any groups of private individuals. Why, with this successful example (for it is successful, both financially and as a place of business and residence) in existence, have not the local authorities been encouraged to carry out their housing schemes on the same lines, or if too large an undertaking for any one of them, why not ask the adjacent local authorities to co-operate and co-ordinate their schemes so that a garden industrial city shall be built which shall be an attractive self-contained centre for the district in which it is placed? I am heartily at one with Capt. Reiss and Mr. Purdom

when, in their evidence before the Traffic Commission, they pleaded for this system of providing homes, and rightly contended that the building of garden suburbs—or dormitories—round the city was not only economically unsound, but intensified enormously the traffic difficulty from which London suffers.

Is not the question to be asked of all local authorities, therefore, not “how many houses do you want for the people you have?” but rather, “how many people have you who would be better employed elsewhere?” How many unemployed have you? Can your industries be extended in a healthy, convenient and economical manner so that the unemployed may be absorbed in them? And again, are your industries in the best positions for being carried on in the most economical way? If not, how many could be conveniently moved, and how far would the congestion of people be thus relieved?

It matters not how convenient and healthy the home may be, it matters not how beautiful are the environments, if we leave to chance the means whereby the people live. It appears to be an unregarded truism that the happiness, comfort and well-being of the dwellers in beautiful surroundings is dependent wholly on their freedom from financial anxiety. Is it not a fact that this freedom can only result from proper scientific organisation of production industry and distribution in connection with every housing scheme—only result in fact from the carrying out to its logical conclusion the Garden Industrial City idea?—Yours faithfully,

S. HURST SEAGER [F.].

Since writing the above I have listened with the greatest interest and pleasure to the inspiring address given by Lord Astor to the Municipal and County Engineers at their Housing Conference. In the course of his address he expressed his desire to see Garden Industrial Cities built throughout the country. I could not help feeling that it would have added much to the practical value of his lordship’s words if he had stated that the members of the Conference could, by visiting Letchworth, see that what he suggested was already in being, and that the members could there get an object lesson which would convince them of the value of the suggestion he had made. With Lord Astor as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health and Mr. Raymond Unwin as the Chief Town-Planning Adviser, may we not hope that the Garden Industrial City idea will soon be carried into a still higher sphere and become a firm Government Policy?—S. H. S.

#### A Factor in the National Housing Scheme.

The following suggestive notes were submitted by Mr. H. C. Corlette [F.] to one or two Members of Parliament on the eve of the debate on the Government’s housing proposals in the House of Commons on the 21st ult.:—

The need for houses, and for expediting the housing

scheme, is generally admitted. The Tudor Walters Committee reported in its "Summary of Conditions and Recommendations" that "every housing scheme . . . shall be prepared by a competent architect, whose duties shall include the preparation of the lay-out plan and the design and planning of all the houses." The reasons are obvious, as technical skill is required and must be used if national health—physical, mental, and moral—is to be sought by rational housing and town-planning.

The Ministry of Health has agreed to a special scale of professional remuneration to be adopted, and such fees are chargeable as part of the capital expenditure of local authorities. The Ministry, in its recently issued "Powers and Duties of Local Authorities," repeats officially that "Local Authorities will do well to obtain the expert advice of architects and others in the preparation of their plans. This is desirable, not only that good plans may be obtained, but also for economy. The economy which an expert would be able to effect should much more than pay the cost of his services." That indicates the economic side of the use of properly qualified "competent architects."

Architects are practical men, practical constructors and planners; for although architecture is a fine art, it becomes reduced to a refined absurdity if it is not built on these foundations of utility. It is therefore desirable that, in any reconsideration of the housing proposals of the Government, the architect, as a real working factor in the scheme, should not be eliminated as a negligible quantity. Architects are not, however, being sufficiently used as a means of quickening procedure, increasing production, ensuring output, and avoiding delay. In one case proposals were already provisionally agreed, in April, by a local rural authority where four pairs, or eight cottages, were to be built. This authority could, and would, have employed an architect in private practice to design and build these cottages but for the fact that the county surveyor was to prepare the plans. They should, and might easily, have been completed by now, but the latest information shows that they have not even been begun for the reason that "our eight cottages will not materialise yet; but, of course, as you know, it is a county affair: the county surveyor will be almost certainly employed; in fact, I think his plans are presented." The remedy for all this avoidable delay is private enterprise, energy and initiative, and the confinement of official surveyors to their public administrative work for which they are paid and the public, including the architects, are taxed or rated. This means that the general principles of administration on which the housing proposals are built need revision. Devolution of authority and decentralisation of work are necessary, and, by this means, it should be possible to effect economy by dispensing with many of the officials, both central and local, and to place the responsibility, with sufficient authority to approve schemes and plans, on existing local authorities.

Speculative building, without sufficient direction and control, in the past has given us the present shameful conditions of insanitary housing in the country, and nobody desires to see this fatal and costly method pursued further. How is it possible for county, or county borough, surveyors to do their normal work and at the same time give sufficient consideration to all the other demands under the special housing requirements, even if they are in some cases "competent architects" as well as capable surveyors. County surveyors have duties to perform under the Small Holdings and Land Settlement Acts. Many local authorities are engaging draughtsmen or architects—so-called—to assist them, as officials, in this, and other, work; but their salaries would be saved six times over, and the housing work would be more rapidly and efficiently done, by architects in private practice.

Private individuals would build cottages if they were given reasonable consideration and facilities. An architect was asked recently to find out under what conditions the Ministry of Health would allow £20,000 to be expended in this way under his direction. He approached the Ministry. They had no suggestions to make, and he was informed that the matter would be considered and they would "let him know." This was some months ago, and he has so far heard nothing.

The proposed restrictions on building, and the grant of subsidies to builders, or contractors, involve increased cost and more taxation. Apart from the other means of increasing the appalling general cost of the housing demands, the suggestion that a working-class dwelling may now cost £1,000 invites a further rise in prices all round, and the bulk of the cost will be passed on to the middle classes, already impoverished by taxation, by the cost of living, and the absence of any of those aids to affluence granted by the State in its easy distribution of public income acquired by compulsory powers.

H. C. CORLETTE [F.]

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ARCHITECTURAL WATER COLOURS AND ETCHINGS OF W. WALCOT. With an Introduction by Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and contributions by W. R. Lethaby, Dr. Thomas Ashby, W. G. Newton, and others. Fo. Lond. 1919. 43 3s. net. [Technical Journals, Ltd., 27 Totill Street, Westminster, S.W.]

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, JERUSALEM, AND OTHER CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IN THE HOLY CITY, with some account of the Mediaeval Copies of the Holy Sepulchre surviving in Europe. By George Jeffery, F.S.A., architect. With 59 illustrations and plans. Demy 8o. 1919. 10s. 6d. net. [Cambridge University Press, Fetter Lane, E.C.4.]

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES IN IRELAND: Plans for the Lay-out of Typical Sites and for Various Types of Houses, including a selection from the Plans submitted in competition carried out for the Local Government Board for Ireland by the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland. Folio. Dublin 1919. 3s. 6d. net. [His Majesty's Stationery Office, Imperial House, Kingsway.]

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT LAW: A Survey of the Powers of Local Authorities in regard to Housing, Roads, Buildings, Lairs and Town Planning. By H. C. Dowdall, Barrister-at-Law, Lecturer on Town Planning Law in the University of Liverpool. Demy 8o. 1919. 10s. 6d. net. [T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., 1 Adelphi Terrace.]

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## TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH BUILDING INDUSTRY,—

**B**Y a mighty national effort we have triumphed over the Central nations, who intended to ruin and reduce us and our Allies to a condition of impoverished slavery. Such a victory has, naturally, cost us a great price ; we have to count the loss of valuable lives and of millions of money. We have won the fight, as we determined to do, but we have taken heavy punishment.

It is not our intention to sit and lick our sores. We mean to consolidate the position we have gained and to hold it for good and all ; we will not allow it to be retaken by our enemies, nor will we be bounced out of it by neutrals, or even by our friends. But we cannot depend upon Government Departments to achieve this for us ; we must do it ourselves. It is up to every man in our industry to do his bit and help to make good the national losses.

It is clear that we must make a great united effort to win our share of the benefits of Peace, like that we made to win the War. With this end in view we, five representatives of the Architects, five of the Surveyors, five of the Building Trades' Employers, and five of the Building Trades' Operatives, have been appointed to form a **BUILDING INDUSTRIES CONSULTATIVE BOARD**. The duty is laid upon us to direct the energies of all in renewing healthy life and activity throughout our Industry.

**FIRST**, we demand that the Industry shall be free from the control and interference of officials, and enjoy the full liberty to manage its own affairs, which it possessed before the War. The following **RESOLUTIONS** have therefore been sent to the proper authorities :—

That in the opinion of this Board the stocks of bricks and other building material (in excess of actual Government requirements) which are the property of or are controlled by the Government should be sold in the open market with a reasonable margin above cost to cover expenses.

That in the opinion of this Board the Building Industry and its associated trades should now be and remain free of Government control or interference.

**NEXT**, we ask that every member of the Industry shall put forth his whole strength, and push the rate of progress up to top speed. The more we produce, the cheaper the prices of all we have to buy ; the more each puts into the common pool of output, the more each receives as his share. And we will use our influence to see that there is fair division.

There is no fear of unemployment. Apart from urgently needed houses, there are enormous arrears of building to make up ; even with most strenuous work it will be many years before we can reach normal conditions and cope with the constantly increasing building demands of commerce. Now is our opportunity ; if we neglect it, the trade of our country will pass from our hands to those of the keen rivals who are seeking it.

Despite our private troubles, the national position is excellent. Statistics show that we are already doing better than any European nation. The future is full of hope and promise. We have been forced to draw the sword against envious enemies who threatened our national existence. It remains only to make “ a strong pull, a long pull, and a pull all together ” to secure the prosperity and comfort for which we have fought.

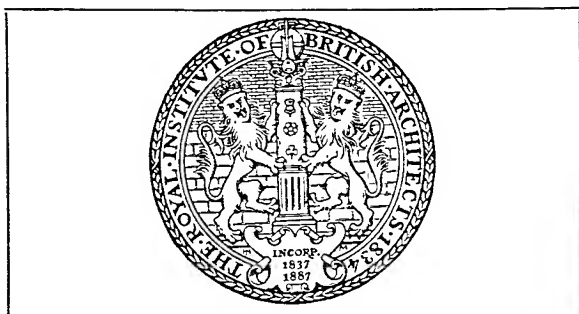
JOHN. W. SIMPSON,

President, The Royal  
Institute of British  
Architects,  
*Chairman.*

J. P. LLOYD.

President, London  
District Council, National  
Federation of Building  
Trades' Operatives,  
*Vice-Chairman.*

*December, 1919.*



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 6th December 1919.

## CHRONICLE.

### Building Restrictions.

The following letter was addressed from the Institute to the Prime Minister on the 3rd December :—

The Rt. Hon. D. Lloyd George, P.C., M.P.,  
10, Downing Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

SIR,—The President and Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects view with grave apprehension the suggestion that further control or restriction should be imposed on the Building Trades.

Their experience is that the methods now in operation have created many of the existing difficulties and that any further restrictions will accentuate them.

The Council therefore strongly urge that any steps deemed necessary to accelerate the provision of houses and utilitarian buildings now urgently needed should be directed to freeing the industry from control, thereby increasing the scope of employment, the development of enterprise, and the free circulation of materials.—I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary.*

### An Appeal to the British Building Industry.

The appeal of the Building Industries Consultative Board printed on pages 58 and 59 of this issue will be circulated far and wide among the various trades that make up the great building industry in this country. The activities of the Board since its formation as a result of the Conference organised by the Institute in May last will be found briefly summarised in the JOURNAL for last September, page 262, but members who missed the Conference, and especially those since returned to civil life, are strongly recommended to read the admirable series of papers delivered on the occasion. Exigencies of space, and cost, ruled them out of the JOURNAL, but they will be found printed in their integrity in *The Builder* for the 23rd May. The stirring appeal now being made by the Board is a further step in the movement to revitalise the industry, to improve the condition of the workers themselves, and, not least, to win the confidence of their patrons, the building public.

### Proposed Suspension of Portions of By-Laws

Space will not admit of a full report of the speeches at the Special General Meeting of the 1st December. The meeting, presided over by Mr. A. W. S. Cross, *Vice-President*, was well attended, and the proceedings lasted till nearly eleven. The results, together with the names of speakers for and against the motion, are recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting, page 64. The object of the Council's proposals is explained in the following letter from the President, which was read to the Meeting at the opening of the debate :—

GENTLEMEN,—It is with deep disappointment that I find myself obliged to ask you to forgive my absence to-night, but I am prevented by the benevolent tyranny of my doctors, and from that there is no appeal. I venture, nevertheless, to send you a few words on the subject which has led your Council to call the present meeting.

It was decided, by the previous Council, that our demobilised men—those, to quote the words of His Majesty, our gracious Patron, "whose war services entitle them to *every consideration* at the hands of their grateful country"—should, if they had complied with certain conditions, be admitted as candidates for the Associateship of this Institute. If this policy had been disapproved of by our members, it was open to them to challenge the Council at a General Meeting and to exercise their power of adverse vote. This was not done; and it may be assumed that opinion—at any rate that of the majority—was in favour of making the concession I have mentioned to the boys who have fought for us. Some members, however, took exception, demanded a ballot, and blackballed the candidates.

I make no reflection on these members. They have a right to their opinion and I do not doubt its sincerity, though I think the means they adopted to give expression to it misguided and deplorable. But it is clear that the unfortunate candidates who presented themselves in good faith, and in compliance with the conditions published by the Royal Institute, have suffered grievous wrong. Not only are they marked with the quite undeserved stigma of the blackball, but are precluded by their rejection from being put forward again for twelve months. Incidentally, too, the members themselves have some ground for complaint, since each issue of balloting-papers inflicts upon us the expenditure of some £50 to £100.

Other demobilised candidates have now come forward under the same conditions, and notice has been given by certain members of their intention to again demand a ballot. Under these circumstances your Council has decided to suspend for a time the portion of By-law 10, which provides for such ballots, since the right it gives is being used, not to exclude an objectionable candidate, but to reject a whole class which has accepted the terms offered by the Royal Institute. The Council proposes, at the same time, to suspend part of By-law 11, so that the candidates

who were so unhappily blackballed may be again proposed without inflicting on them the injury of further delay. They have lost four-and-a-half years of their working life in fighting for our sakes : it is not just that they should be deprived, for another year, of any privileges we can offer them.

I have thought it right to explain the circumstances for your information ; but these do not touch the real point at issue. If there is to be any continuity of policy in our government, any of that unity in the conduct of our affairs which is so greatly desired, a Council must carry out the pledges given by its predecessors ; and the General Body must loyally support them in their decisions and discountenance all sectional "direct action." It has been too much admitted in the past that a Council may bring forward proposals which are defeated or maimed in General Meeting, and—quietly accept the position.

Believe me, Gentlemen, your present Council is made of other stuff. They will submit for your approval matters which they have fully considered, on which their minds are clearly and unanimously made up ; and they will expect you to back them.

It is so in the present case : they have decided that the right course for the Institute to take is clearly marked, and they ask you to express your confidence in their judgment. The temporary suspension of the ballot will throw upon them an added responsibility for scrutinising all nominations they put forward. They recognise and accept that responsibility.

I ask you to give them your *unanimous* and ungrudging support.

JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*.

The following is a brief summary of the debate that ensued :—

Mr. F. E. PEARCE EDWARDS [F.], of Sheffield, said that he spoke on behalf of a number of provincial members who considered the concessions granted to ex-service men constituted a complete reversal of the examination policy upon which the present standing and influence of the Institute was founded, and that they should not have been adopted without giving the General Body an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the matter. Much had been made of the injustice suffered by candidates who had not been elected, but a far greater injustice would be inflicted on the Associates who had also done their duty in the war and had submitted themselves to the required examination. Mr. Edwards said he knew of no other professional body which had entirely waived its final qualifying examination, and went on to read protests sent to the Council by a number of Yorkshire Associates in March and October last, in which it was pointed out that men were being admitted who qualified as Students so long ago that it was absurd to suggest that their inability to present themselves for the Final was due to the war. The protest urged that the benefits of exemption should be most strictly confined to those who could prove beyond question that their special studies for the Examination were well advanced but were definitely interrupted by their military service. Their objections were based on certain cases in the list of candidates in which it was submitted that the requirements had not been complied with. Referring to the printed Special War Regulations, in which the concession is

limited to students of not earlier than 1910, Mr. Edwards pointed out that many candidates of earlier dates had been nominated.\* In the last list published, of eight candidates, it appeared that six passed the Intermediate in 1919.

The SECRETARY explained that these six candidates had qualified at recognised schools for registration as Students just before the war, but having joined the Army they had neglected to apply for registration at the Institute. The Council had decided that these men were eligible for exemption.

Mr. EDWARDS, continuing, said that behind these proceedings some members saw portents of a reversal of the Institute policy, and that the Examination system was to be dropped altogether. If that were so, the Council should come out into the open at once, and say so.

The CHAIRMAN said he would take up the challenge at once and reply that nothing was further from the intention of the Council than to drop the Examinations, and that no suggestion of the kind had ever been before them.

Mr. EDWARDS accepted the explanation, and thanked the Chairman for reassurance on this point, and referred to the "special whip" which, he said, had been sent from the Secretary's office to those Fellows who it was presumed would support the Council's proposals. [The Chairman's reply to this point is given in the Minutes, printed on a later page.] His principal objection was to the suspension of the By-laws, wherein the Associates had no vote, but which so deeply affected their class. Mr. Edwards went on to say that if the resolution were carried, a further course of action remained open which he and his friends would not hesitate to take—viz. : to petition the Privy Council. That might mean a split in the ranks which it would take years to heal. He appealed strongly to the Council to drop the proposal to suspend the By-laws and adhere to 1910 as the earliest date for the concession, in which event the undivided support of members would, in his opinion, be secured. Finally he submitted that the necessary seven days' notice of the meeting had not been given, the notice having been posted on the 25th and received on the 26th November.

The CHAIRMAN promised that the objection should receive careful consideration.

Mr. DAVIDGE asked whether the opposition was due to the manner in which the relaxation was carried out in particular instances. If so, the objection could be met by an adjournment to investigate the cases of alleged irregularity.

The CHAIRMAN categorically denied that any candidates had been admitted without any examination at all.

Mr. DAWBER asked whether the opposition did not come from one part of England only.

The SECRETARY replied that the opposition which had reached him came from two centres : Sheffield and Liverpool.

Professor BERESFORD PITE suggested that Mr. Edwards had mistaken exemption for examination. In the list there were scores of men who were exempted because of having passed outside examinations at which a representative of the Institute was present to impart the Institute's recognition. He hoped this matter would not be adjourned, and he favoured the suggestion that the alleged irregular cases should be investigated. One Sheffield name was objected to in April, 1919, and in the

\* The concession limiting the studentship date to 1910, to which Mr. Edwards refers, was only introduced into the Regulations after the June election.—SECRETARY.

Council's subsequent list that name was not included. But surely that did not justify the blackballing of 61 candidates who applied on the strength of the Council's promise, nor did it justify the absurd remark that the Institute intended to do without examinations. What was really at the bottom of the Council's action was that five dark, sad years had been struck across the educational life of every young man who was pursuing his studies at the Institute, and not of the younger men only. The Council promised these men who had pursued their studies up to a certain point that they would receive the consideration which had been mentioned. He did not believe Mr. Edwards meant that the Council should be asked to go back on this piece of elementary sympathy.

Mr. FRANCIS HOOPER [F.] said members wished to support the Council, but the latter were not infallible. He supported Mr. Davidge's suggestion.

Mr. T. TALIESIN REES [F.] (Liverpool) said they in his city had not heard anything about the Council of the Institute wishing to dispense with examinations: and as President of his Society he desired to say they wished to be loyal to the Institute. But they thought that the Council would be badly advised to do away with the ballot. If he had been to the war he would not like to think he had been allowed to enter the Institute by a back door. If candidates were not fitted before the war to be members, what they did in the war could not have made them more fit for membership. To do away with the ballot would show a weakness on the part of the Council, for how else were provincial members to make their influence felt? He suggested that the Council should send out with candidates' names their qualifications and particulars of their war service; if that were done he could undertake to say that there would be no unjust blackballing.

Mr. ISAAC TAYLOR [F.] (Manchester) said he was not aware of objections in Manchester such as Mr. Edwards and Mr. Rees had indicated. There were opportunities given to object to any names when they appeared in the JOURNAL, and he felt sure such objections would be closely scrutinised by the Council before the candidates were nominated.

Mr. H. A. WELCH [A.] expressed regret at the President's illness, and wishes for his speedy recovery. He regarded the matter under discussion as one of grave importance to the Institute, mainly on the ground of principle. The Council's decision was taken when all hearts were warmed to the men who had served at the Front, and in principle he felt all members were in accord with the resolution. But in practice it had been found that the net covered a much wider area than was intended. The younger men, owing to the interruption of their studies, had a right to the consideration afforded them by the concessions. Men, however, who had begun their professional studies twenty or twenty-five years ago, because they had served their country in the war could present themselves as candidates under the scheme. If that were put right, fully seven-eighths of the bone of contention would disappear.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that since the June election the Regulation had been revised, and that those Students who had passed the Intermediate Examination (or its recognised equivalent) earlier than the year 1910 were not now entitled to the concession.

Mr. C. STANLEY PEACH [F.] said there seemed to be a general consensus of opinion that the Council were right in doing what they had done to make up to men who had served in the Army. Opportunity for objection to this

policy had been afforded, but none was made. The new Council found itself faced with a definite policy, which it was pledged to continue. If objectionable names had crept in under the concession enquiry could eliminate them. There were 2,500 voting members of the Institute, but only 457 filled up and returned the voting paper. Of these, 184 used the blackball, or 40 per cent. of those who voted, 7 per cent. of the whole membership.

Mr. W. F. RILEY [F.] said that he had come from a meeting of architects which, without a dissentient voice, urged him to express a strong opinion against the contemplated action. It was an ungracious thing to advocate that a man who had served in the war should not receive some discount in entering his chosen profession, but was a proper differentiation being made? He urged the Council to listen to what had been stated as to the feeling of architects in the Provinces on this matter. A decision should not be taken without resorting to the full vote of the Institute.

Mr. ARNOLD THORNELY [F.], of Liverpool, said he believed that the majority of members would be found to be in sympathy with the Council's resolve, if it were strictly interpreted. The concession had, however, been stretched to such an extent that a ballot became necessary, otherwise it would be a question of electing these candidates by means of a packed meeting (applause and dissent).

Professor F. M. SIMPSON [F.] pointed out that in no other way than that proposed could the Council redress the undoubted injustice which had been done by blackballing so many candidates who had come forward in accordance with a definite promise.

Mr. PAUL WATERHOUSE [F.] said that the Council had acted from motives of sentiment, one of the great forces in England. That one or two mistakes had been made was as nothing in the balance compared with the absolute necessity to grant these concessions. Some had spoken as if the Council were an hereditary monarch whom they wanted to get rid of; it was, however, only recently elected by members, and was loyally carrying forward the policy of its predecessors.

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS [F.] thought that on this matter the Associates only ought to have power to vote. The matter of dates was the kernel of the whole question. Men who might have passed their examinations before the war started ought not to be included in this concession.

Mr. MAURICE WEBB, D.S.O., M.C. [F.], said he represented a large number of students in London at the Architectural Association, and he had heard much discussion on this matter from their point of view. They all regarded this as a definite promise from the Council. Questions of dates were subsidiary; it was only a temporary measure, and in regard to future names submitted any desired measures could be taken.

Mr. W. G. NEWTON, M.C. [A.], said he spoke as one who had not received the "whip" and was not a member of the Council. There seemed to be three main lines of opposition: (1) certain hard cases; (2) the question of date; (3) the danger of examinations being abolished. As Hon. Secretary of the Board of Architectural Education, he could say that every case was carefully scrutinised by the Board of Architectural Education. The question of suspension of examinations was not likely to arise.

Mr. HURST SEAGER [F.] (New Zealand) said that in the new land they were trying to uphold the honour of the profession on the model set by the Royal Institute. And they were taking every care that those who had been to the war and whose studies and connection had been



injured thereby should have every consideration. With this in view they had made representations on the subject to the Governor in Council.

Major C. B. FLOCKTON [F.] (Shetfield) spoke as one who had given four and a half of the best years of his life to war service, and who therefore wished to do his best to assist the ex-soldier. Architects went into the war feeling they left their professional status in the keeping of the Council, and returned to find that in some ways their birthright had been taken away. Bringing in people to the profession broadcast in this way meant a grave breach of faith to the Associates who took the examination.

Mr. F. M. ELGOOD [F.] urged that the matter should not be allowed to proceed to the vote, but should be reconsidered.

The rest of the proceedings are sufficiently reported in the Minutes, p. 67.

#### Sympathy with the President.

The following is among many sympathising letters received by the President, Mr. John W. Simpson :—

*The Society of Architects,  
28, Bedford Square, W.C.1.  
27th Nov. 1919.*

DEAR SIR.—Permit me to say how very sorry I am to see an announcement in the professional journals that you have been obliged, through ill-health, to give up your active interest in professional matters outside your own affairs, for the time being.

I would like to express the hope which I know will be shared by members of the Society of Architects generally, and particularly those who have had the advantage and pleasure of being brought into touch with you on architectural matters, that you may speedily be restored to health and able to resume the work which you had taken up with the prospect of so great an advantage to the profession.

I assure you that you have the best wishes of the Society of Architects for your complete recovery.

Yours faithfully,

C. MACARTHUR BUTLER.  
*Secretary.*

#### The late John Dibblee Crace [Hon. A.].

Formal announcement to the Institute of Mr. Crace's death was made by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. ARTHUR KEEN, at the General Meeting last Monday in the following terms :—

I deeply regret to announce the decease, at the age of eighty-one, of our distinguished and most respected Hon. Associate, John Dibblee Crace, who had given much valuable service to the Institute as a member of the Literature Standing Committee for the best part of thirty years. The fifth in direct descent of a family which has won distinction in the art of decoration, and himself a diligent student of the art in all periods of the world's history, his stores of knowledge on the subject were always at the disposal of the Institute, as our records and proceedings abundantly testify. His wonderful skill as a draughtsman will be remembered by all who have inspected the interesting collection of drawings, chiefly studies from colour decora-

tion in Italy, which he presented to the Institute a few years ago and which were lately exhibited in this room. It is not generally known, I think, that it was owing to a suggestion of Mr. Crace's that the Institute became the custodian of the famous Burlington-Devonshire collection of drawings. I beg to move that this meeting do express the Institute's grateful appreciation of his services, and its sorrow at his demise, and that a message of sympathy and condolence be communicated to his widow and family.

The motion was agreed to in silence, the members rising in token of respect.

Mr. C. HARRISON TOWNSEND [F.], late Chairman of the Literature Standing Committee, writes :—

The qualifications of those from whom the Institute has thought fit to form its list of Honorary Associates include that of being able, by reason of their "experience in matters relating to architecture, to render assistance in promoting the objects of the Royal Institute." Looking through that list one finds to how very exceptional an extent was this condition complied with by John Dibblee Crace, who, during the thirty years of his Honorary Associateship, did active and ungrudging service of more than one kind. His help in particular was always sought for, and valued by, the Literature Committee, as was evidenced by the fact that for several years they were glad to obtain the advantages of his participation in their work in the capacity of a Co-opted Member. Here J. D. Crace showed himself full of interest and knowledge, particularly in the field he made especially his own—that covering the Italian Cinque-Cento period of decorative art and colour treatment. Not only was he exceptionally informed on the literary side of this phase of art—thanks to his own fine library—but his many visits to Italy (the first of which was as far back as 1859) enabled him to make a large number of sketches and drawings. These, and others, all full of grace and feeling and a practical appreciation of the points to emphasise from the aspect of their educative value, were, it will be remembered, on view a few months ago in the Common Room of the Institute.

Starting on that journey of sixty years ago, as he himself was wont to say, an avowed lover of Gothic work, and a friend and intimate of Pugin, he came, however, under the influence of the work of the Italian Renaissance, and, as a consequence, his views became modified, his ideals underwent a change, and Crace returned with that love of the design and principles of that period which shaped the whole of his future life-work.

Throughout his career he was loyal to this, his early, choice, and in his decorative design was never led astray—as were so many of his contemporaries of his principal working years, such as Walter Crane, and, to a less degree, Lewis Day—by what he would have called the False Gods of Modernism and the Newer Art. He was constant to his ideal, and took his message from those who he felt knew and so could teach—the Italian artists of the fifteenth and six-

teenth centuries, who, as he said, "excelled in all Arts alike."

It was of J. D. Crace that Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema said—when presenting him, some ten years ago, with the Gold Medal of the Institute of British Decorators—that he was a notable exception to the rule that "the son of an artist is never an artist." As one of the fifth generation of a family of distinguished designers and decorators he upheld the family tradition, and has left much work by which he will be remembered with appreciation and respect.

C. HARRISON TOWNSEND.

Professor ARCHIBALD C. DICKIE [A.C.], who was for some years associated with Mr. Crace's work at the Palestine Exploration Fund, writes:

By the death of John Dibblee Crace there passes one of the oldest and most loyal workers of the Palestine Exploration Fund. His first visit to the Near East was in 1868 and from that time his interest in the exploration of Palestine has been actively sustained.

Elected a member of the Executive Committee in 1872, he subsequently succeeded the late Sir Walter Besant as hon. secretary, an office filled to the last with a zeal and industry which age and infirmity could not quench. He died in his eighty-second year, and during the last years of his life bore the greater part of the burden of the Fund's affairs, thinking and acting with that high quality of wisdom and decision which was his.

During a long and distinguished career in practice as a decorative mural artist, from which he only recently retired, much of his valuable time was generously given to voluntary work covering wide and varied interests, of which that of the Palestine Exploration Fund came, perhaps, nearest to his heart. In addition to administrative work he contributed regularly to the *Quarterly Statement* and edited several of the most important publications by the Fund. Among these latter was *The Painted Tombs of Marissa*, a work which, as a mural painter, he handled with peculiar interest and care.

By wise policy tactfully exercised he steered the Palestine Exploration Fund for more than half its lifetime of over fifty years, through successive stages of its long record of valuable research. Those who have been associated with him in this work can realise the loss it has sustained and can mourn even more intimately, the passing of one whose high principles so directly governed his conduct in all things. Human sympathy was, in him, a strongly marked trait but for "the man who did not know his job" he had little patience.

Overtaken by failing eyesight, but still possessed of his remarkably clear intellect, the pleasure of contact with men and matters was, as he said, "sadly marred by my inability to see the man to whom I am speaking." To the second party the charming personality of Mr. Crace was, if possible, enhanced by age and infirmity.

During the last decade, death has claimed a heavy toll of those pioneers whose work we so much appreciate, and it is with grief that we contemplate the end of their valued counsel at this dawn of a new era.

A. C. DICKIE.

Mr. Crace was Master of the Painter Stainers' Company in 1884; his father, Mr. John Gregory Crace (who decorated the Houses of Parliament and the International Exhibition of 1862 in London), was Master in 1897, and his grandfather, Mr. Frederick Crace, in 1851. In 1908 he was the recipient at the hands of Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema of the Gold Medal of the Institute of British Decorators, of which he had been the founder and first President. In the Institute JOURNAL for last July [pp. 221-23] were published some details of Mr. Crace's career, together with some very interesting reminiscences, culled from the response made by him on the occasion of the presentation. The following is extracted from *The Times* of the 22nd November:—

Mr. Crace joined his father in business at the age of sixteen, but his education was continued by various visits to France, Germany, and Italy. He was one of the earliest of the old Volunteer Force and was promoted to Major before pneumonic trouble compelled his retirement in 1868. He spent the following winter and spring in Egypt, Turkey, Greece, and Palestine, filling sketch-books and note-books. He was a most industrious sketcher all through life, and a careful student of all forms of industrial art. Now and again he exhibited small pictures at the Royal Academy.

Mr. Crace designed the decorative colouring of the new portions\* of the National Gallery, the "Victoria Hall," in Leeds Town Hall, and the Indian Room at the Imperial Institute. The latter circumstance, combined with his love of Indian decorative arts, stimulated him to take a leading part in the strong and successful opposition of ten years ago to the official intention of dispersing the Indian collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum by distributing them in the general collections according to subject. He also ardently espoused the still unrealised ambition of providing a distinct and all-embracing Indian museum in central London.

On his retirement from active practice Mr. Crace was able to give increased attention to the many other interests for which even in his busier days he had always found time. He was keenly interested in education on the technical side of his own art and took an active part in the foundation of travelling studentships to enable young men of a new generation to get from study in Italy the same inspiration which he had himself enjoyed. His connection with the Palestine Exploration Fund began shortly after his visit to the country in 1869, and as a member of its council and later as its hon. secretary he had for many years given an interest and attention to the work of the Society which not even the blindness of his last two years was allowed to interrupt.

Mr. Crace published a book on the *Art of Colour Decoration*, but he exhibited very little, and had a reserve and

\* Mr. J. F. Crace writes in *The Times* of the 1st inst. that "the allusion to the 'new portions' might leave the impression that the most recent alterations made were in accordance with Mr. Crace's designs or intentions. . . . These alterations are not in any way his work, and are not in fact, of a character on the least degree approved by him."

shyness about his own work which left much of his talent unknown except to the few who were familiar with the delicate colouring and exquisite pencil-work of the many sketches and drawings made during a long life. Alike in his profession and outside it, his life was rich in work done not for himself.

## A NEW INDUSTRIAL ORDER.

Under the auspices of the Garton Foundation a small but important booklet\* has been published giving an account of the steps that have been taken since August 1914 towards a better organisation of the building industry.

Prior to the war this industry, like the other industrial and commercial activities of the country, had developed upon the fundamental assumption that the best way for the individual engaged in making a living was to exploit the needs of the community as far as custom permitted or his capacities enabled him. This assumption is now being challenged in every direction, everywhere organised workers are realising that most wealth-producing activities, instead of being regarded primarily as matters proper for private venture, should rather be regarded as public services requiring the participation of producers and consumers in a system of democratic control under public ownership. This booklet hardly goes so far as this, but it deals with the organisation of the building industry as a public service and is an attempt to develop some of the above-mentioned ideas into a better scheme of things.

The ball was set rolling by a letter from Mr. Malcolm Sparkes to the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners early in 1916, in which it was suggested that the various building trade unions should invite the employers to join in setting up a National Parliament for the building industry composed of representatives of masters and men in equal numbers, elected democratically in a spirit of goodwill and mutual trust, for the purpose of helping on the progressive and continuous improvement of the industry, attention being given particularly to decasualisation, to adequacy of wages and conditions of work, and also to apprenticeship and research.

After careful consideration by the twelve great trade unions a scheme was evolved which was presented to the building trades employers on 17th January 1917, and after full discussion by the administrative committee of the Employers' Federation it was adopted at a conference held in London on the 20th June 1917.

A council consisting of 66 employers and 66 operatives was formed for England and Scotland, the inauguration of which took place in London in May 1918. Sir David Shackleton, of the Ministry of Labour, presiding at the opening session; since when it has produced a valuable interim report which was adopted by

a large majority last August. This report, which deals with a mass of detail, is probably more interesting to architects where it states afresh the four main factors that tend to restriction of output, which middle class people are so prone to overlook or find it so difficult to understand, namely:—

(a) The fear of unemployment.

(b) The disinclination of the operatives to make unrestricted profits for private employers.

(c) The lack of interest in the industry owing to the non-participation of the employees in control.

(d) Inefficiency, both managerial and operative.

Closely related to this is the question of decasualisation. "We are convinced," says the report, "that the overhanging fear of unemployment must be removed before the operative can be expected wholeheartedly to give his best."

These are not points which should be of secondary consideration to the architect, since the causes which produce casual labour and restriction of output are causes which eventually lead to the lowering of craft competence and the fostering of jerry methods.

It is in connection with the regional employment committees, which it is proposed to establish to deal with these matters in particular, that a place is found for the architect: he is hardly mentioned elsewhere in the booklet. This is not as it should be: even if there is no place for the architect on the main industrial council there ought to be architects as liaison officers connected with every branch of the Building Parliament's activity throughout the country. To what extent is the council of the R.I.B.A. in touch with the Building Trade Parliament?

One point in the scheme should be noticed by architects: the "continuous and progressive improvement desired by the workers" was defined by the trade unions as having reference "not only to scientific management, increase of output and welfare methods," but it was considered essential that there should be "closer association between commercial and æsthetic requirements." It may be a surprise to those who fail to realise how much modern trade union thought is concerned in "thinking out problems in terms of humanity as well as in terms of material advantage" to find them using the word æsthetic without some sort of apologetic simper: it is questionable whether any large body of the middle class could throw aside its self-consciousness and venture to put such an ideal into cold print.

This movement in the building industry is really revolutionary: in unmistakable language it implies a new industrial order, a new conception of self-governing public service. It is an experiment hitherto untried, and I venture to think that two points not mentioned in the booklet are essential to its completion. Firstly, the form of control of the new organisation must be so worked out that a bureaucratic type shall be impossible, and secondly, there must be a complete safeguarding of the public interest. The

\* *The Industrial Council for the Building Industry. The Story of a Revolution in Industrial Development.* Sm 8° 1919 1s. [Harrison & Sons, 44-47, St. Martin's Lane.]

building industry must be run for the benefit of the public and not purely for the benefit of the persons engaged therein: the participation of the consumer is essential in any system of democratic control.

Only in so far as these two points are linked up to the remainder of the organism can a more orderly and philosophic scheme of things be evolved.

VERNON CROMPTON [F.].

## ALLIED SOCIETIES.

### Manchester Society of Architects.

Mr. Isaac Taylor [F.], in the course of his Presidential Address to the Manchester Society of Architects, at the inaugural meeting this session, briefly summarised the Society's work in connection with the Manchester Corporation's Housing Scheme, in which they had been invited to co-operate.

Up to the present time, he said, the five estates being purchased by the Manchester Corporation at Gorton, Rusholme, Clayton, Newton Heath and Wilbraham Road, and the one estate purchased by the Prestwich District Council, have been laid out under the chairmanship of members of the President's Committee, and 75 architects have been appointed to co-operate in the erection of the houses. The selection of architects was a difficult and obviously an invidious task. There were many who might rightly feel that they had at least equal claims with those selected to have been appointed, and he wanted to express his appreciation of the way those who had not got those appointments had behaved, for he had not heard a single seriously meant adverse criticism on their selection. They had tried to act fairly and impartially and un-elfishly, and he knew they had failed as much as any other human agency was bound to fail in doing all they had set out to do. Very likely many architects as well as many of the public were wondering when they would begin to see some of the results of all this organisation. He did not think the delay had been the fault of the architects this time, but when they considered that each scheme had to go before several committees and that in each scheme there were many stages to be submitted for approval, it would be realised that there must be periods of waiting, and when tenders were obtained the terrific prices almost compelled reconsideration even of the most economical schemes to see what further reductions could be made. They hoped, however, that building would soon be in progress on most of the estates, and that the part that the Society had taken in the scheme might be proved to bring Manchester to the premier place in the country for the excellence of her housing as for her other obvious virtues. This scheme in Manchester was being watched with great interest by architectural bodies all over the country. The Council of the R.I.B.A. was keenly interested, and the scheme had had to be explained to several of the Allied Societies who hoped to get similar schemes to work in their areas. Possibly one of the most useful results to architects on the Manchester Housing Scheme would be the practical illustration of the possibilities of co-operation. They had tried as far as possible to pool ideas and to act together, and he trusted that this lesson would react on their future relations together, so that they might come into a real federation of architects free from all jealousies and bitterness, and that they should be equally ready to cover up each other's weaknesses and extol each successful achievement.

Referring to the Manchester Piccadilly site, Mr. Taylor said that this seemed at last to be likely to be solved. A noble Art Gallery would seem to be the most fitting Peace Memorial for the city. There had been a strange fatality about the site which probably held the world's record for abortive competitions. When early this year the scheme for building the Art Gallery was brought forward, the Council wrote to the Corporation expressing the hope that no definite steps should be taken in the appointment of an architect until the Army was more nearly demobilised. The Corporation cordially fell in with the view, and so far no definite steps had been taken. Now that most architects were home again they would soon hear something. Many of them felt that the usual form of competition for a large public building was unsatisfactory. Competitions had improved a great deal, but they were an unfair tax on the profession. Examples might be quoted where the number of competitors was so great that the cost incurred by them collectively would equal the actual cost of the building to be erected. Could not some other way be found? The results, taken generally, were not so manifestly successful as to warrant the continuation of such a cumbersome method. They did not want to lose the opportunity for unknown genius to come forward, which was the great argument in favour of the present system. If Manchester could find a solution in her Art Gallery she would indeed earn fame, but whatever the method, they hoped that the coming year would see the beginning of a building worthy of the site and worthy of the city.

### Northern Architectural Association.

Discussing the question of Registration in his Presidential Address to the Northern Architectural Association on the 19th ult., Mr. C. S. Errington [F.] said:—

Our Association has been constant in its advocacy of the registration of architects, always, however, with the proviso that the Royal Institute should be the prime mover in the matter; and when the Royal Institute, in 1913, drew attention to the difficulties which were in the way of proceeding with the promotion of a Parliamentary Bill, our Council decided to support the alternative method of proceeding to effect the object in view by way of Charter, as a preliminary step to the active promotion of a Registration Bill in the future. We have all realised the difficulties which have led to the postponement of the matter from time to time, and we are all equally desirous that it should be brought to fruition at the earliest possible date.

You may remember that during the early part of the year 1914 the Royal Institute, with the assistance of the Allied Societies, were considering the proposal for seeking a new Charter and by-laws, to enable the Royal Institute to constitute and maintain a register of qualified architects, etc., and several meetings were entirely devoted to the consideration of the Council's proposals, culminating on the 29th June, 1914, in the whole scheme being adopted, with certain amendments. This meeting, we were informed, was probably the largest and most representative meeting ever held at Conduit Street, and the solicitors of the Royal Institute were instructed to prepare the necessary petition for submission to the Privy Council. Our President attended this meeting, together with ten other representatives of the Allied Societies, which all tended to show the importance of the proposals and the earnest desire that something should be accomplished as speedily as possible. The matter has rested in abeyance since then, for reasons which are obvious to all.

The provision for the establishment and maintenance of

the register is as follows: For the first six months of its existence it will entitle all those possessed of certain qualifications to register, and after that period those only will be entitled to register who pass the recognised tests, i.e., the examinations qualifying for admission to membership of the Royal Institute. It is proposed that the register shall be administered by a Registration Board, or Authority, and that the constitution of the Council shall be revised, the effect of which will be to further extend the representation of the Allied Societies, and which may make it possible for each of the nineteen Allied Societies in Great Britain and Ireland to have a representative. The point in regard to these proposals in which I see difficulty is the distinction made between "Chartered Architects" and "Registered Architects." Corporate Members of the Institute only having the right to the former distinction. I am not without hope that the Privy Council, who will ultimately decide this and other matters, may direct that there shall be only one class, and not two classes.

We have the President's words for it, that this matter of the new Charter will be in the forefront of the Royal Institute's programme for the ensuing session.

On the subject of architectural education, Mr. Errington said:—We have in the past placed great reliance on the voluntary efforts of the pupil in his spare time, but if the architect of the future is to be efficiently trained and thoroughly equipped for the manifold duties which we hope will be his portion, it becomes our duty to give the most careful consideration to the facilities which already exist for assisting the pupil in acquiring the necessary knowledge and in deciding in which way they might be improved.

I wish to acknowledge very gratefully the excellent work of the Architectural Department at the Armstrong College, where one of our Members—our honorary librarian, Mr. Weightman—has done, and is doing, so much for the training and equipment of the architectural student. I have within the last few days had the pleasure of visiting the Architectural Rooms, and I am delighted with the atmosphere and tone which seem to prevail. There is a special day course, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, extending over two or three years; and an excellent evening course is provided in addition.

The Council of our Association is giving special consideration to this important matter, and after some correspondence with the Armstrong College authorities, a sub-committee of our Council was formed to meet a similar committee representing the College authorities, with a view to discussing how the facilities provided by the architectural classes could be so augmented as to provide a full course embracing all those subjects covered by the Royal Institute's final examination.

Financial considerations will probably determine the future of this scheme. We have certain funds, or the interest on certain funds, provided by our generous benefactor, the late Mr. William Glover, which we can devote to this worthy object; we have expectations, too, which will in the future augment that fund; and if I here state what our ultimate object is, it may stimulate others to give a helping hand, for our earnest desire is the founding of a Chair of Architecture at the University of Durham, Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where our noble Art, with all its glorious traditions, can be handed down to students for all posterity, and where the people may be educated to the appreciation of beauty, design and craftsmanship, without which all our efforts will be in vain.

Addressing the students, Mr. Errington advised them all

to make a special study of one of the periods, or even one of the buildings in those periods, when architecture was a living and progressive thing. Examine the building, study its proportions, measure it carefully, draw its details, make sketches of it from various points to a large scale, in order to judge the effect of what you have measured and studied, and your training will benefit to such an extent as may seem to you quite incredible. . . .

I should like to mention one example and take for the illustration of it a page from the life of one of our Founders, one whose work should have considerable interest to us all. I refer to the late Robert J. Johnson, a most enthusiastic student. After the days of his pupilage, he spent a considerable time in France—doing what I am advising you students to do—sketching, measuring and dissecting the early mediæval churches. His original works are now in the keeping of the Royal Institute, and the drawings were eventually published under the title of, "Specimens of Early French Architecture," a copy of which is in our Library.

On coming to our neighbourhood—having acquired the practice of our first President, the late John Dobson—he was called to design many buildings of the most varied character, and we know he had difficulties to contend with as have been common to most of us. At first his churches were conceived somewhat on the lines of the French models which he had studied; but as time went on he designed the most beautiful churches, in our own English manner; not slavish and soulless copies of the mediæval ones, but with the something added which is so difficult to describe—the thing which makes our Art so grand. Would it have been possible for this great architect to conceive such magnificent churches as St. Matthew's, Newcastle; All Saints', Gosforth; or St. Hilda's, Whitby, to mention only the chief of those designed in his perfected manner, without this early training which I have mentioned? Would it have been possible for him to design the first portion of the Armstrong College, the Dame Allen's Endowed School, or that masterpiece of a frontage in Collingwood Street, now Lloyds Bank, all in other and various manners, without this early training? I am sure it would not. He had, by means of his early training and his great love for his Art, though, perhaps, unconsciously, developed into a master of the craft; and he learnt his lesson in the way I have suggested that you students should learn it. . . .

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## MINUTES. III.

### Business General Meeting, 1st Dec. 1919.

At the Third General Meeting (Business) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 1st December, 1919, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. A. W. S. Cross, *Vice-President*, in the Chair; 50 Fellows (including 16 members of the Council), 32 Associates (including 3 members of the Council), and 10 Licentiates—the Minutes of the Meeting held 17th November were taken as read and signed as correct.

Mr. Arthur Keen, *Hon. Secretary*, having formally announced the decease of John Dibblee Crace, *Hon. Associate*, referred to his inestimable services as a member of the Literature Standing Committee and as a contributor to the Institute Transactions, and it was

RESOLVED, That this Meeting do express the Institute's grateful appreciation of the services of its distinguished and most respected *Hon. Associate*, John Dibblee Crace, and its sorrow at his demise, and that a message of sympathy and condolence be communicated to his widow and family.

The decease was also announced of Richard Henry Ernest Hill, *Associate*, Robert William Orme, *Associate*, and Charles Bryan Oliver, *Licentiate*.

Upon the motion of the Chairman it was

**RESOLVED**, That Clause 9 of the Scale of Professional Charges be amended to bring it into conformity with the Scale of Fees for Housing Schemes [see JOURNAL for 22nd November, 1919] agreed between the Royal Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Scottish Board of Health.

This concluded the Meeting.

#### Special General Meeting, 1st Dec. 1919.

At a Special General Meeting held Monday, 1st December 1919, at 8.30, and constituted similarly to the Business Meeting previously held [see above], the Chairman announced the object of the Meeting, viz., to consider a resolution, put forward on behalf of the Council, to suspend the operation of certain portions of By-laws 10 and 11.

The Secretary read a letter from the President addressed to the General Body giving the Council's reasons for the action proposed, and asking for the unanimous support of the Meeting.

The Chairman then moved that the following portions of By-laws 10 and 11 be suspended for a period of twelve months, viz.:

By-law 10, line 4: From the words "Provided always that" down to the end of the By-law.

By-law 11, the concluding sentence: "No candidate who has been excluded from election shall again be proposed within a period of twelve calendar months."

The motion was opposed by Mr. F. E. Pearce Edwards [F.], of Sheffield, who claimed to speak on behalf of a number of provincial members; Mr. T. Taliesin Rees [F.], of Liverpool; Mr. H. A. Welch [A.], Mr. W. E. Riley [F.], who stated that he had been urged by a meeting of architects to express a strong opinion against the contemplated action; Mr. Arnold Thornely [F.], of Liverpool; Mr. Sydney Perks [F.], and Major C. B. Flockton [F.], of Sheffield.

Remarks in support of the motion were made by Professor Beresford Pite [F.], Mr. Isaac Taylor [F.], of Manchester, Mr. C. Stanley Peach [F.], Mr. George Hubbard [F.], Professor F. M. Simpson [F.], Professor S. D. Adshead [F.], Mr. Paul Waterhouse [F.], Mr. Maurice Webb, D.S.O., M.C. [F.], Mr. W. G. Newton, M.C. [A.] and Mr. Hurst Seager [F.], of New Zealand.

An amendment moved by Mr. E. G. Allen [F.], and seconded by Mr. F. M. Elgood [F.], to suspend By-law 11 in respect of the list of candidates who formed the subject of the recent ballot, also to resubmit the names with full details of war service and technical training, was put to the vote, and negatived.

A statement by Mr. Edwards that a special "whip" had been issued from the Secretary's office to certain Fellows urging their attendance at the meeting to support the Council's proposals was denied by the Chairman, who explained that the notice had been sent only to those Fellows of the Institute who were members of the Council and Standing Committees, and that it was usual to send such notices in order to secure a quorum.

A further objection was raised by Mr. Edwards that the seven days' notice of the Meeting prescribed by the By-laws had not been given, the notice having reached him through the post only on the preceding Wednesday morning; that the Meeting was consequently invalid and the proceedings abortive.

The Secretary, in reply, explained that the printers had reported that there had been some slight delay in the work owing to labour difficulties, but that the great bulk of the notices had been issued within the prescribed time, and the remainder by the following post.

The Chairman's resolution being put to the meeting was carried by a large majority, 41 voting for, and 8 against it, Fellows only voting.

The Chairman having stated that the Meeting to confirm the resolution would be held on the 15th December, the proceedings closed and the Meeting separated at 10.45 p.m.

#### A False Death Announcement.

Members will be glad to hear that Mr. MARTIN T. E. JACKSON [F.], who was reported recently as deceased, is alive and well. The report has been contradicted to the Institute by Mr. Jackson himself both by telephone and by letter. A copy of the JOURNAL posted to his old address had been returned to the Institute endorsed "Deceased" and signed by an individual unknown by name to Mr. Jackson. "Probably," writes Mr. Jackson, "it did not occur to him what serious consequences might have attended his action if, instead of holding an official position, I had happened to be a private practitioner."

#### Marlborough College War Memorial Competition.

Any "Old Marlburians" who would like to take part in a competition for the Marlborough College War Memorial are requested to communicate with Mr. Percival W. Lovell, 27, Abingdon Street, S.W.1.

#### Change of Address.

Mr. M. S. Castello [A.] has changed his office address from 35 Norfolk Street, Strand, to 63 Finsbury Pavement.

#### Appointments Vacant and Wanted.

An Assistant is required by Mr. H. W. Walker [A.] and Mr. P. T. Adams [A.] to go to Ceylon on a two years' agreement. Salary £40 per mensem. Applicant should be unmarried, aged 26-30. He would be required to work in Messrs. Walker and Adams's temporary London office for three months at London rates of pay. Apply Mr. P. T. Adams, 35, Bedford Row, W.C.

Architect requires position as Chief Draughtsman with view to partnership. Twenty years' all-round experience. London preferred. Apply Box 212, Secretary R.I.B.A.

Experienced architect (A.R.I.B.A.) wishing to return to practice would consider partnership proposal or would take appointment as Chief Assistant with a view to eventual partnership. Write to R. F. W., c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

## NOTICES.

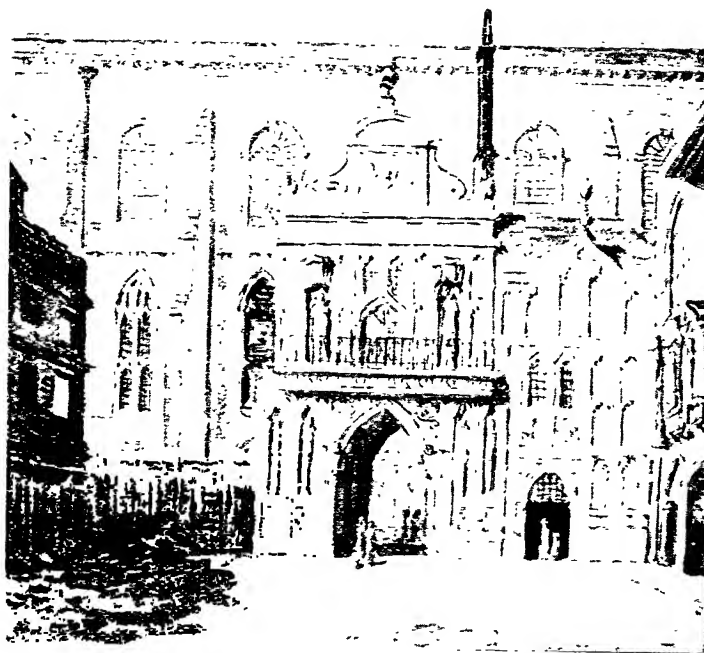
A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING will be held MONDAY, 15th DECEMBER 1919, at 7.45 p.m., when the Chairman will move the confirmation of the Resolution passed at the Special General Meeting of the 1st December, viz., that the following portions of By-laws 10 and 11 be suspended for a period of twelve months:—

By-law 10, line 4: From the words "Provided always that" down to the end of the By-law.

By-law 11, the concluding sentence: "No candidate who has been excluded from election shall again be proposed within a period of twelve calendar months."

The FOURTH GENERAL MEETING (ORDINARY) of the Session will be held Monday, 15th December 1919, at 8 p.m., when the following Paper will be read:—

LONDON TOWN PLANNING SCHEMES IN 1666  
By SYDNEY PERKS, F.S.A. [F.]



SOUTH VIEW OF GUILDHALL, LONDON

"This view was taken previous to the entire demolition of the Porch or entrance into the hall" (inscription on drawing).

## LONDON TOWN-PLANNING SCHEMES IN 1666.

By SYDNEY PERKS [F.], F.S.A., F.S.I.

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 15th December, 1919.

**I**N a pamphlet published in 1667\* it is stated that the Great Fire of London started on the 2nd September and continued burning until the 6th September, but it seems impossible to get the exact date when the limit of the damage was reached. This is not to be wondered at when things were in such a chaotic state. The *London Gazette* of 15th September 1666 also states that the fire was arrested on 6th September, but that it broke out again on the evening of that day. John Evelyn states in his diary that he submitted his plan to the King on 13th September, and in his letter of 27th September he states he did so "within two days after the conflagration": that means that the fire was arrested about 11th September. He confirms that date in a letter of 22nd December to Mr. Oldenburg, stating that the discourse "was finish'd within two or three days after the Incendium." On 7th September Evelyn states: "Nor was I yet able to pass through any of the narrower streetes, but kept the widest; the ground and air, smoake and fiery vapour, continu'd so intense that my haire was almost sing'd and my feete unsufferably surbated." Again, a Dutch plan which I refer to later states that the fire was burning as late as 16th September: indeed, it smouldered for months.

It is also interesting to note by a comparison of their plans that Evelyn and Wren do not agree as to the limit of the damage by the fire.

There was soon great activity by many men to produce plans for rebuilding the City: so quickly were the plans produced that it is obvious they could not have had much consideration. The rush and bustle was quite suggestive of American methods of to-day. Dr. Oldenburg, the secretary of the Royal Society, in a letter to Mr. Boyle dated 18th September 1666 wrote as follows:—

... Dr. Wren has since my last drawn a modell for a new citty, and presented it to the king, who

\*"A true and faithful account of the several informations exhibited to the committee appointed by Parliament to inquire into the late dreadful burning of the City of London."



produced it himself before his council, and manifested much approbation of it. I was yesterday morning with the doctor and saw the modell; which, me thinks, does so well provide for security, conveniency and beauty that I can see nothing wanting as to those three main articles: but whether it has consulted with the populousness of a great city, and whether reason of state would have that consulted with, is a quære to me. I then told the doctor, that if I had an opportunity to speake with him sooner I should have suggested to him that such a modell, contrived by him, and reviewed and approved by the R. Society, or a committee thereof, before it had come to the view of his Majesty, would have given the Society a name, and made it popular, and availed not a little to silence those who aske continually, What have they done? He answered that he had been so pressed to hasten it, before other desseins came in, that he could not possibly consult the Society about it.—*British Museum, Add. MS. 6193*, pp. 163-164.

But the best evidence of his anxiety to be first in the field is shown in a letter by John Evelyn dated on 27th September 1666. He wrote: "Every body brings in his idea: amongst the rest, I presented his majesty my own conceptions, with a discourse annexed. It was the second that was seen, within two days after the conflagration; but Dr. Wren had got the start of me." If I were preaching a sermon I should take as my text these words: "Dr. Wren got the start of me."

Hooke lost his chance by approaching the Royal Society on 19th September and the Corporation on 21st September, the idea being that he should approach the king stating his plan was approved by both the Corporation and the Royal Society. The Journal of the Court of Common Council of 21st September 1666 contains the following entry: "Mr. Hooke having upon M<sup>on</sup> and encouragement of the Court prepared and presented an exquisite Modell or Draught for rebuilding of this City, This Court doth declare their good acceptance of the same." Wren was far too good a business man to waste time with public or scientific authorities and was first in the field, and the king had approved his plan by 10th September (see *infra*).

I think if we regard Wren as an exceedingly able business man, ambitious, and determined to be the architect for as many large buildings as possible, we shall get a clue to his method of work. Architects have so much admiration for the great genius of Wren that his plan has received unlimited praise, but very little detailed criticism. It has been accepted as a great scheme for which we should be thankful. We have been so delighted by the fact that the main roads would have been ninety feet wide, which is about the width of Regent Street, that further criticism has been considered unnecessary.

I went to Oxford to see the original drawings, which are preserved in the Library of All Souls' College, and these plans are reproduced by kind consent of the College authorities.

On the first plan upon which Wren worked the roads outside the fire area are shown in the ordinary way; inside the fire boundary there are single lines indicating only the principal streets, such as Newgate Street, Cheapside, Watling Street, Cannon Street and Thames Street. St. Paul's Cathedral, the Royal Exchange, the Guildhall, and a few other buildings are indicated.

His second plan has been cut out with a pair of scissors or a sharp knife, and Fig. No. 1 is the final scheme. It is 2 feet 3 inches by 1 foot 2 inches and very carefully drawn.

His first plan differs from Fig. No. 3. Apparently from the first Wren meant to rebuild St. Paul's Cathedral, for although no plan of the building was necessary for his map, yet he produces two distinct plans for a new building. This suggests that while he was rushing out his plan to get ahead of his competitors the great chance of rebuilding St. Paul's Cathedral was ever constant in his mind.

Wren dealt with the problem in a drastic manner: he swept away the entire city within the fire boundary and, regarding it as a vacant site, he started to make a town-planning scheme.

The first scheme also differs from the final scheme in that the minor streets around the Exchange are straight and not at right angles to the longer streets; in the latter they have an angle in the middle of the length. The plots immediately east of Ludgate are set back in the first scheme, adding importance to the Gateway, and the narrow blocks of buildings along the embankment were added in the final scheme. The Custom House is not shown in the first scheme and the roads in the neighbourhood are consequently different, and the planning just north of Billingsgate varies considerably.

The only buildings that are marked by a reference letter in the first shown are the proposed Guildhall and Doctors' Commons. The site plan for a new Exchange is sketched in the same way in both schemes.

The basis of Wren's plan is the formation of two wide roads from the East, one from Leadenhall Street in the direction of Aldgate and one from the neighbourhood of the Tower; they meet at Ludgate, and St. Paul's Cathedral is in the acute angle of the junction: it would have occupied quite a small portion of the present site. Apparently Wren was willing to sacrifice a large cathedral for his angular scheme, for St. Paul's Cathedral would only have had about the same area as the Mansion House: had a large cathedral been built on the ancient site then the road plan was impossible. It all shows a rush, and even if the scheme had been approved the question of a large cathedral must have arisen and prevented the development of the idea. The plan strikes one as the first effort of a great man; prepared in so few days it could not possibly have had careful consideration.

With regard to St. Paul's Cathedral it is much to be regretted that to-day we get no general view of it from any main street east of the cathedral: the curve of Cannon Street gives us a charming view of a small portion of it and a view is obtained along Watling Street; but had Wren's plan for rebuilding London been carried out this defect would have been worse, for a reference to the plan will show that nothing could have been seen of the cathedral from any point east of it.

*Parentalia* was written by Wren's son Christopher and published by his grandson, Stephen Wren, in 1750. It is illustrated, but there is no map showing the great architect's scheme. The MS. is preserved at the Royal Society, and I was kindly allowed to examine it. There are some illustrations but there is no map; there is a marginal note: "Plan to be annex'd." An examination of the statements made in *Parentalia* is interesting. Filial enthusiasm is an excellent thing, but when it leads to gross exaggeration and absolute untruth it should be regarded with suspicion.

Christopher Wren, junior, stated: "Dr. Christopher Wren was appointed Surveyor-general and principal Architect for rebuilding the whole City. . . . A Charge so great . . . disposed him to take to his Assistance Mr. Robert Hook . . . to whom he assigned chiefly the Business of measuring, adjusting, and setting out the Ground of the private Street-houses to the several Proprietors."

The following are extracts from the Journal of the Court of Common Council stating the facts:—

*Bolton, Mayor.* Sir Thos. Adams and others of the Committee appointed by order of this Court to  
*4th Oct. 1666.* attend the Committee of Lords touching the great business of rebuilding the City declaring  
*Jor. 46, fo. 123.* that they have there upon attended the Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor and other Lords of his Majesty's most honorable Privy Counsell and received from their Lordships his Majesty's pleasure.

*Dr. Wren, Mr.* That for the better and more expedition of this work he hath pleased to appoint  
*May, Mr. Pratt* Dr. Wren, Mr. May and Mr. Pratt to joyne with such Surveyors and Artificers as should  
*to joyne with City* be appointed by the City to take an exact and speedy Survey of all Streets, Lanes, Alleys,  
*Surveyors.* Houses, and places destroyed by the late dismal fire, that every particular Interest may be ascertained and provided for the better judgment made of the whole affair.

This Court doth therefore Order that Mr. Hooke, Reader of Mathematics in Gresham College Mr. Mills and Mr. Edw. Jerman do joyne with the said Dr. Wren, Mr. May and Mr. Pratt in taking the said Survey, and that the Deputy's and Common Councillors have notice of the Surveys where the same shall be taken in every Ward to the end they may be in readiness to take care for the interest of themselves and the Inhabitants of their respective Wards.

*Jor. 46, fo. 129.* This Court doth nominate and appoint Mr. Hooke of the Mathematics in Gresham  
*31st Oct. 1666.* House, Mr. Peter Mills and Mr. Jerman from time to time to meet and consult with Mr. May, Dr. Wren and Mr. Pratt, Commissioners appointed by his Majesty concerning the manner, forme and height of Buildings in this City, the Scantlings of Timber, removing of Conduits, and Churches, and alteration of the Streets.

*Form and height of Buildings.*

And it is Ordered that from time to time they report such their Consultation to this Court and give no consent or make any agreement therein without the special Order of this Court.

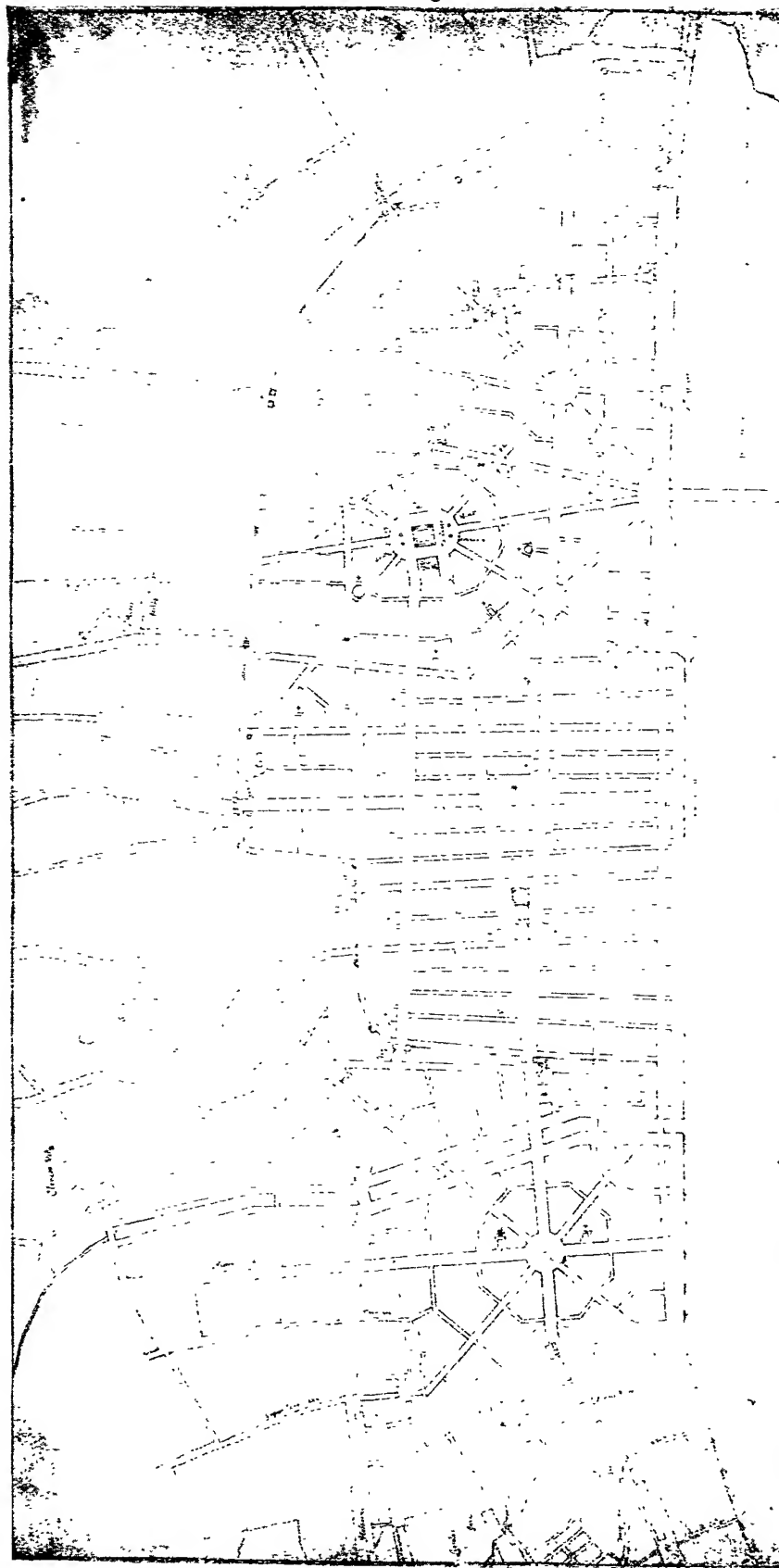
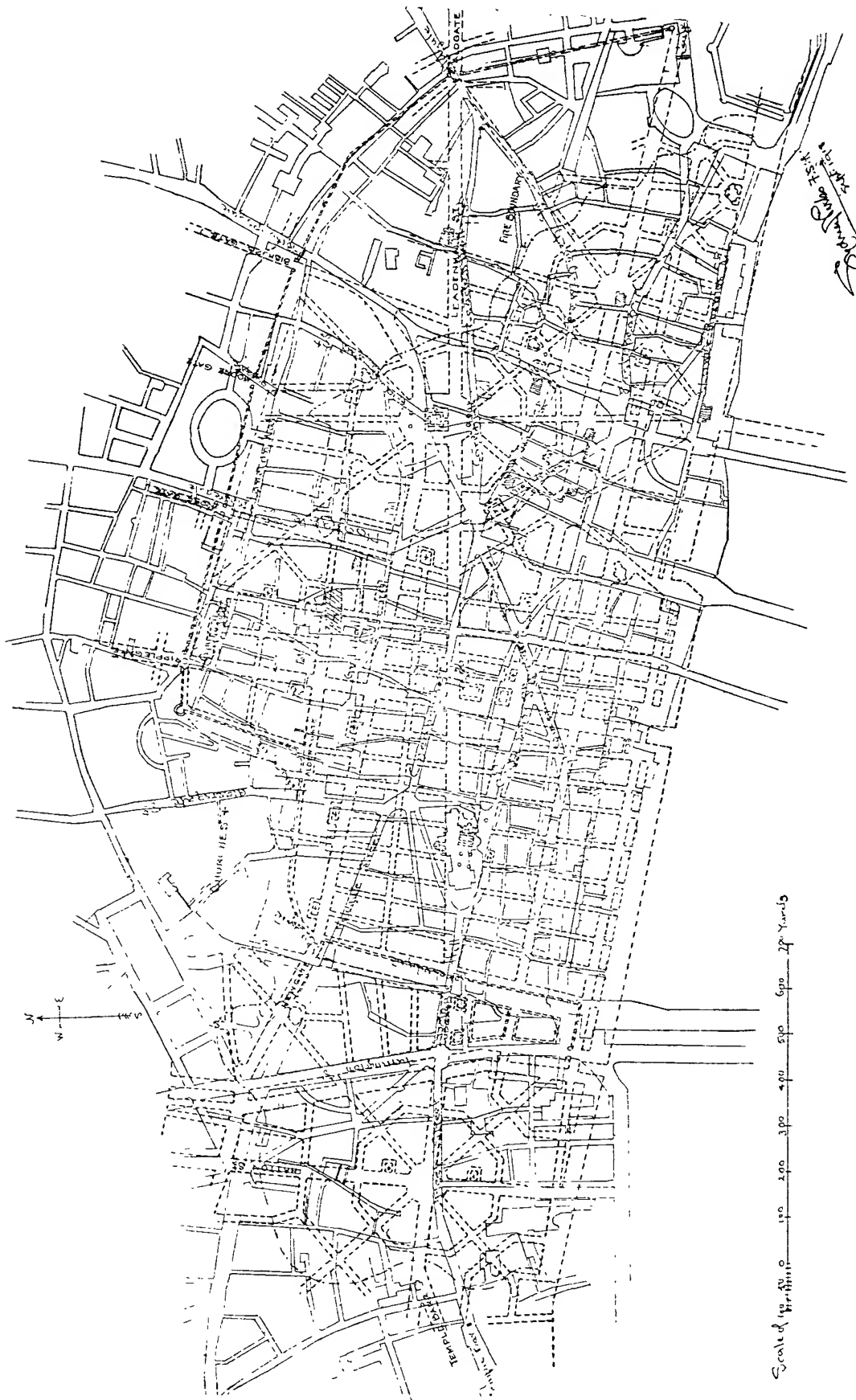


FIG. 1 Dr. WREN'S FINAL PLAN FOR REBUILDING THE CITY OF LONDON, 1666 (Reproduced from his Original Drawing.)



The above extracts show that the statement in *Parentalia* is not correct. Hooke was not appointed an assistant by Wren. He was appointed by the Corporation and paid a fixed salary. I have seen the receipt he signed on 30th December 1667 for £75 "for my salary, for half a year ended at Michas. 1667." There is no record of Hooke making any general plan of the City; all he did was to set out the foundations of each building after an application by the owner to the City Chamberlain.

The author of *Parentalia* states that "Dr. Wren . . . immediately after the Fire took an exact Survey of the whole Area and Confines of the Burning, having traced over, with great Trouble and Hazard the great Plain of Ashes and Ruins, and designed a Plan or Model of a new City." As we know that plan was placed before the king "within two days after the conflagration" the above statement is obviously an exaggeration. The description further states that the streets were to be "as near parallel to one another as might be: avoiding, if compatible with greater Conveniences, all acute Angles." It seems from this that Wren's son was conscious of a very serious defect in his father's plan and was trying to excuse it. Let us examine Wren's main 90-foot roads and we shall find that with the exception of two, or at most three, streets south of Ludgate, none of the cross streets are at right angles to the main thoroughfares, neither does the main wide street from Cripplegate cross the two main streets at right angles, except the street north of the Guildhall site. This is a serious defect in town-planning; so much so that when King William Street was laid out by Dance and he had to meet this difficulty which was imposed on him, he met it by a clever device of making the side streets join up at right angles for a few feet and then break away at the altered angle. This can be seen to-day at Abchurch Lane, Nicholas Lane, etc. This is an illustration of the benefit of having an architect to handle street improvements, and I hope the day is not far distant when no Borough Engineer or Surveyor will be appointed unless he is a member of this Institute.

Wren's son Christopher also states: "All Church-yards, Gardens and unnecessary Vacuities . . . to be placed out of the town." Had the scheme been carried out the City to-day would be without those many green spots which are some of the greatest charms of our old-world City.

The author of *Parentalia* states an advantage "by uniting the Halls of the twelve chief Companies into one regular Square annexed to Guild-hall." There is nothing in Wren's plan to suggest this, neither is there any "regular Square annexed to Guild-hall" on Wren's plan.

The author refers to the position of the junction near Ludgate and states from there "This great Street presently divides into another as large, which carries the Eye . . . to the South front of the Exchange." A glance at the plan will show that no part of the Exchange could be seen from the neighbourhood of Ludgate, and the eye he referred to must have been able to look round the corner.

Again he says: "Leaving St. Paul's on the left we proceed"—a distance of about a mile and a quarter—"towards the Tower, the Way being all along adorned with parochial Churches." As a matter of fact there are only four shown on the plan—and they are all at the western end of the road.

Had Wren's plan been carried out parochial and ward boundaries would have disappeared, some of them having existed since Norman times. The pamphlet of 1667 which I have referred to gives the number as "Eighty-nine Parish Churches, besides Chappels, burnt." Certainly at least eighty-six were destroyed or severely damaged. Wren only provided for the re-erection of seventeen churches. Six chapels were burnt, but Wren made no provision for their re-erection, and the scheme made no provision for the preservation of the old burial grounds which would have been desecrated.

In 1911 the copy of *Parentalia* which was owned by Stephen Wren's daughter was purchased and presented to this Institute. It has a large number of additional illustrations, including a scheme for rebuilding London: but, by an irony of fate, it is not Wren's scheme, it is Gwynn's version of it which he published in 1749, and he had the impudence to call it "A Plan for rebuilding the City of London after the great fire in 1666 design'd by that Great Architect St Christopher Wren and approv'd by the King and Parliament but unhappily defeated by faction." I have communicated with the Librarian of the House of Commons and taken considerable trouble to ascertain if Wren's plan was approved by

Parliament, and I can find no record of any approval. The Journals of the House do not even refer to it, so we can safely regard Gwynn's statement as untrue. He also states that the drawing is "reduced from the original of St Christopher Wren." That is also incorrect.

Fig. No. 2 shows Gwynn's plan in dotted lines applied to a plan of London as it is to-day. The small dotted lines show the extent of the fire and the limit of Wren's proposal. The dotted plan does not fit exactly over the existing plan, but I took Ludgate and Aldgate as fixed points. Owing to slight inaccuracy of the seventeenth century plans such points as the Tower Gate, Cripplegate, Moorgate, etc., do not quite coincide.

This plan is often published as Wren's plan; but it is very different, it carries Wren's scheme beyond the fire limit, a new Leadenhall Street is continued ninety feet wide to Aldgate, and a new street is shown from Bishopsgate direct to London Bridge, which was impossible according to Wren's plan. Gwynn also shows a new street north of Cripplegate and a wide street north of the Strand. In the main road from Ludgate to the Tower he labels a circular building as a church, contrary to Wren's plan. Wren's plan for St. Paul's is sketchy, but it differs from Gwynn's plan. He labels certain open spaces as "Piazzas," a word not used by Wren, and he alters Wren's plan south of the Guildhall site and adds two churches. When we examine Wren's proposal and compare it with a plan of the City the first thing to strike one is his absolute disregard of the old streets. This is what was to be expected from Wren's first sketch plan. Not one single old thoroughfare remains, a little St. Paul's occupies part of the site of the present cathedral, the Guildhall and the Royal Exchange would both have had different sites. Among others the following old buildings would have disappeared: The Guildhall, with its magnificent crypt; the Crypt of St. Mary-le-Bow; Merchant Taylors' Hall; St. Alphage, London Wall: every old church in the City within the fire area—many of them, although partly destroyed by the Great Fire, still retain small portions of the mediæval buildings. This also applies to certain Halls of the City Companies. Except in the case of St. Paul's no attempt was made to place a new church on an ancient site, and, as stated before, every little green spot would have disappeared and the City would indeed have been one of bricks-and-mortar. If Wren's scheme had been carried out what an uninteresting place the City of London would be to-day.

Now let us consider the Guildhall. Apparently Wren intended to build it on another site, forming a large square block with streets on each side. During the time he rushed out his plan he could not have considered whether it was necessary to rebuild the damaged structure, and if he did, he came to the wrong conclusion. It is supposed that at a later date Wren acted as Architect for the Corporation with regard to the restoration of the structure. That is a tradition, but I have been unable to discover any document relating to the matter. Whether it was Wren or someone else is unknown, but we do know that Wren was consulted with regard to the Porch or Gate-house. Whoever it was who carried out the restoration it is clear that either he had no knowledge of Gothic architecture or that he had a profound contempt for it, or he would not have acted as he did. The old Gothic roof fell in, half the floor collapsed and with it some fine vaulting. The architect who restored the building made no attempt to replace the roof with a structure similar to the old. He levelled up the walls, built hideous circular-headed windows and erected a low-pitched roof with a flat ceiling. This was in keeping with the idea of rebuilding the premises, if regarded as a temporary expedient: and the same with the west portion of the Crypt. All the stones were on the site, the vaulting was simple, but the architect built what are usually called a series of railway arches in brick, using in the old Gothic stonework, bonding it in with the bricks or using it as rubbish to fill in the spandrels of the vaulting, and it is there to-day; the vaulting is just the same as an ordinary coal cellar under a London street. This again looked like the temporary measure of a man who intended to pull down the whole structure and rebuild it. Take the Porch as a third sample. Wren was responsible for a classic pediment similar to the upper part of Temple Bar, jammed on top of beautiful fifteenth-century work. The man who did that was obviously not only entirely ignorant of Gothic work but he had also, as I have said before, a profound contempt

for it, or he would never have allowed such vandalism. The loss of the old Guildhall roof was unpardonable, for it could easily have been reconstructed on exactly the old lines.

The earliest print of Wren's plan that I can trace is dated 1721, engraved by H. Hulsberg. This is at the British Museum. It was reprinted in 1744 and refers to the original in the possession of the Earl of Pembroke, signed Hulsberg, of 1724. There are two editions of this print of 1744, one without Hulsberg's name and a text substituted.

With regard to the Gwynn edition, it was also engraved by Sparrow, the City arms added, and Gwynn's name omitted. This is in the Crace Collection at the British Museum. There is also another edition of the Gwynn version given as Wren's and Gwynn's name entirely omitted. This again occurs in a French edition of 1758.

Hooke's plan of London has often been referred to but cannot be found. During a search at the Bodleian I came across a Dutch view of the Fire of London by Marcus W. Doornick of Vygendam. (Fig. 3). In the corner there is a plan for the rebuilding of London, and it is quite possible that it is Hooke's, for in Waller's Life of Hooke we read "all the chief streets as from Leadenhall corner to Newgate, and the like, to be in an exact straight line, and all the other cross streets turning out of them at right angles. All the churches, public buildings, market places, and the like, in proper and convenient places: which no doubt would have added much to the beauty and symmetry of the whole. How this came not to be accepted of I know not: but it is probable, this might contribute not a little to his being taken off by the Magistrates of the city, and soon after made Surveyor." Hooke, or whoever made the plan, was even more drastic in his ideas than Wren. Wren squeezed the cathedral site to an insignificant size, but the author of the Dutch plan wiped it out of existence. Hooke shows the sites of fifteen churches and Wren twenty-nine churches.

There is also an entire Dutch plan at the British Museum: it was published in 1666. The text is in Dutch, French and English, and refers to the "Fire of London, Befallen the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th September 1666." It is by "Jan Craalinge Konst en Caert-verkooper in de Calverstraat 1666." There are two versions of the print with different descriptions, and each with a different plan of London before the fire, although each has the same rebuilding scheme, presumably Hooke's.



FIG. 3. A PLAN FOR REBUILDING THE CITY OF LONDON, 1666. (POSSIBLY HOOKE'S SCHEME)



Knight also made a sketch plan. The most interesting point is the date, which was 20th September 1666, so Wren had a good start of him. The plans of Wren and Evelyn are not dated.

The question of a new plan for the City was very quickly decided. On 10th September, 1666, Sir William Morice, a Privy Councillor and Secretary of State, wrote the Lord Mayor the following letter from Whitehall :—

MY LORD,—His Ma<sup>ty</sup> being informed that some persons are already about to erect houses againe in the City of London upon their old foundations, hath comanded mee to signify his pleasure unto your Lordship that you inhibit and straightly forbid both them and all other persons whatsoever that they presume not to build any dwelling houses till further order, his Ma<sup>ty</sup> having before him certaine modell and Draughts for re-edifying the City with more decency and conveniency than formerly. And if notwithstanding this advertisement and the signification of his Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s pleasure herein, they shall yet proceed to build without order, your Lordship may assure them (as undoubtedly it will come to passe) that whatever they raise in such manner will be demolished and levelled again.—I am, Your Lordship's most humble servant,

WILL MORICE.

So we know that on 10th September the king had received some scheme, presumably Wren's, and we learn from Dr. Oldenburg's letter, quoted above, that His Majesty liked the idea of a new City and laid the proposal before the Privy Council, but the letter does not say the Privy Council approved the idea.

The Records of the Privy Council of that date are preserved at the Public Record Office. I have had a careful search made but no reference can be found to Wren's plans, either among the various papers or in the Privy Council Register. The earliest mention of Dr. Wren is dated 31st October; this refers to the preparation of a plan of the City as it was, and the clearance of rubbish, etc. There are also references in the following March, on the 6th and 12th: these concern the carrying out of the Act. Consequently, it seems quite clear that Wren's plan was not approved by the Privy Council. The King's advisers evidently made up their minds very quickly, as, indeed, they were bound to do, owing to the great distress and urgency of the case; and on 13th September, only three days after the date of the letter quoted above, the King signed a long declaration; it is preserved at the Record Office (State Papers Domestic Vol. CLXXI., No. 95), the printed copy is 10 pages long and the following are two extracts :—

We do declare, that if any considerable number of men . . . shall address themselves to the Court of Aldermen, and manifest to them in what place their ground lies, upon which they design to build, they shall in a short time receive such order and direction, for their proceeding therein.

We do declare, That Fleet Street, Cheapside, Cornhill, and all other eminent and notorious Streets, shall be of such a breadth, as may with God's blessing prevent the mischief that one side may suffer if the other be on fire, which was the case lately, in Cheapside, the precise breadth of which several Streets shall be . . . shortly published.

The above extracts show that Wren's plan was immediately rejected, people could build on their old sites: and, again, if Wren's scheme had been carried out there would have been no Cheapside and no Cornhill. It is clear that a Building Act was contemplated, to include provisions for widening the streets. The declaration was at once followed by activity to promote a Bill in Parliament, and on 24th September a Committee of Parliament wrote to the Lord Mayor on the subject, asking for the Remembrancer's help and referring to documents already drafted on the subject. No time was lost, the Bill was introduced on 29th December, it passed through both Houses, and on the 8th February following, less than four months after the fire, it became an Act. During the passage of the Bill some members were in favour of a rebuilding scheme, and it was evidently discussed, as might have been expected.

It has been stated that Wren's scheme was not carried out because of opposition of the Aldermen, and the City, etc. I think this is due to Gwynn's statement that Wren's plan was "approved by Parliament and unhappily defeated by Faction." I have shown that the plan was not approved by Parliament, and a careful search has been made at the Guildhall; the minutes of the Court of Aldermen

and the Court of Common Council, and also the MSS. of that date, of which there are many, have been examined, but there is not the slightest reference to the subject. A search has also been made at the Record Office and the British Museum, with the result that not a scrap of evidence can be found to support Gwynn's statement, which has been handed down and quoted and enlarged upon for over 150 years. Now let us see what a gigantic Utopian scheme Wren prepared. Four hundred streets, numbering 13,200 houses had been burnt down, and, say, 66,000 people were homeless. No doubt parts of the walls remained and there was subsequently little difficulty in marking the boundaries of the properties. On the old sites the people could get back very soon, some properties were certified early in the following Spring; but Wren wanted to "scrap" all the old streets and to form new roads of a length of over 21 miles; the roads were to be run through the remains of houses and churches only partly destroyed, and which, of course, would have had to be razed to the ground. Then he would have had to fill up old basements and cellars and form foundations for his new roads and then make the roads; the old supply pipes for water would have been useless, and a considerable portion of St. Paul's Cathedral would have had to be removed as it would have blocked up his two main thoroughfares. It was, indeed, a colossal scheme; it would have taken years to carry out, and the cost would have been enormous: in the meantime the people would have been homeless, and the trade of the City would have been stagnant, for until the new roads were made, no warehouses or business premises could be erected. No wonder the King's advisers came to a quick decision and rejected the idea.

Concerning Evelyn's schemes I have little to state. His plans are well known. On the first plate he states it was presented to the king "with a Discourse now in the Paper Office." I have had a search made at the Record Office and elsewhere without any success, for I want to read that "discourse." A reference to it in Sir John's diary implies that he has kept a copy. It may be at Wotton House; the Evelyn family is most sympathetic, and a search has been commenced, but as yet I have no good news.

On the second plate it is stated that the plan showed twenty-five churches on their old foundations, and all the principal streets almost in the same position. All the schemes show a street opposite the east end of St. Paul's Cathedral, and views were arranged from various other directions. Evelyn worked to improve the City for traffic and at the same time to preserve the ancient sites and all that was of interest to an antiquarian: a great ideal, requiring much time and thought, and it is not to be wondered at that his great competitor, acting with very different ideas, proceeded quicker, and so Evelyn wrote he had made his scheme "but Dr. Wren had got the start of me."

#### APPENDIX.

Cover) These  
for the Right honorable S<sup>r</sup>  
Thomas Bludworth kn<sup>t</sup>  
Lord Mayor of  
London.

My Lord,

A Committee of parhamt are appointed to meete this afternoone to receive propositions for the rebuilding of London, yo<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>th</sup> knowes that those propositions wch were prepared were presented to my lord Chancelor, to whom wee beseech yor lo<sup>th</sup> to send for them, & to order the Remembrancer to bring them to us to the howse or to the legg where wee intend to dyne. And in case that the sd paper should not be got, yor lo<sup>th</sup> may please to order a faire Coppie to be presently made that it may be sent us: who are yor Lo<sup>th</sup> humble servants

7 ber 24, 66

Y<sup>r</sup> Lordp will bee pleased  
to appoint some fitt persons  
to attend the Committee  
w<sup>th</sup> the proposalls, &  
to give constant attendance  
on them hereafter

Richard Brow<sup>n</sup>  
W. M. Thomson  
Richard Ford  
John Jones

Endorsed 24 Sept 1666.

From y<sup>r</sup> Citizens Members  
of Parliam<sup>t</sup>

For a copy of y<sup>r</sup> proposalls.

PRIVY COUNCIL REGISTER 2 59.

Whitehall, 31 October 1666.

[King not named as present]

Whereas the Committee of Lords appointed by his Ma<sup>ty</sup> to treat with the Citty about the rebuilding thereof upon conference with the Com<sup>ty</sup> appointed by the Common Councell of the said Citty for the same purpose the 18th of October last it was agreed upon as followeth

That the streets & Foundation of Building be cleared & the survey and admeasurement thereof be taken & made (according to the late acts of the Common Councell & proclamation thereupon without delay. [with regulations as to the amount allowed to the land-owners &c for the surveye])

And it is referred and left to Dr. Wren, Mr. May Mr. Prat, Mr. Hook Mr. Mills & Mr. Jarman, and they are desired to contract and agree with able & skilful surveyours at reasonable rates, not exceeding those before mentioned, & to be supervisors of them for the effectual accomplishment of this service

WHITEHALL, 6 March 1666/7.

Present: the King etc.

His Ma<sup>tie</sup> in Councell refers back againe to y<sup>e</sup> Lord Chancellor & the rest of the Commissioners for building the City of London, that the Committee of Aldermen & Common Council who have delivered in proposalls to the said Lords Commissioners or the Committee that they have appointed, do draw lines in the Map, according to the modell they have proposed, that his Majesty may be the better able to judge of y<sup>e</sup> breadth of the streets & to give directions accordingly.

COUNCIL AT BERKSHIRE HOUSE.

12 March 1666, 7

Present: the King etc.

His Ma<sup>tie</sup> having heard the Two acts of the Common Councill read distinctly to him of the 26th. & 27th. of February, the map of the City lying before him, his Ma<sup>ty</sup> looking upon the lines drawne out in the said map according to the orders mentioned, & deliberating & discoursing much thereupon his Ma<sup>tie</sup> doth fully approve & commend all y<sup>e</sup> Particulars mentioned in the said orders with these animadversions upon some of them.

His Ma<sup>tie</sup> doth recommend unto their consideration that if they can with any convenience ad some breadth to the Streets from the Greyhound Tavern in Fleete Streete to the end of St. Paul's church into Cheap-side, which by the orders are appointed to be enlarged to forty foote at the least, so that the same might extend to fifty foot as near as it may be.

2. His Ma<sup>ty</sup> doth recommend to their consideration that instead of raising Fleete Bridge six foote it may be raised nine foote high without which Boates will not be able to pass under, and that the levelling of the Ground be accordingly

3. His Ma<sup>ty</sup> doth recommend unto them the consideration of enlarging the streetes from Holborne Budge to Newgate, the same being at present in no degree proportionable to the rest

4. His Ma<sup>ty</sup> doth recommend to their consideration the making a Strete from the end of the Old Bayly to the Thames, which his Ma<sup>ty</sup> conceives will easily be done, & will prove of Great Benefit & convenience to the Citty.

5. His Ma<sup>ty</sup> doth recommend to their consideration the taking away the Middle Rows from the Sessions in the Old Bayly to Smithfield and to Wyden it to the Old Bayly, and that instead of the two Rows only one Row of Building may be erected.

6. His Ma<sup>ty</sup> doth recommend to their consideration That the lesser and Meaner Halls may be erected next the Thames, which will ad much Beauty to that Place, and the ground whereon they stood will be applied profitably to other uses.

7. His Ma<sup>ty</sup> presumes that such care will be taken for common markets, that there may be no Markets kept in any Strete

8. Lastly his Ma<sup>ty</sup> doth appoint Mr Hugh May, Dr. Wren & Mr Prat to be ready at all times to confer with the committee of the Citty and their Surveyors, & to give their best advice & assistance whenever it shall be required.

## DISCUSSION OF THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. E. GUY DAWBER, *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

Professor S. D. ADSHEAD [F.]: I have very great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Perks for his Paper, which I may describe as an extraordinarily interesting piece of research. With regard to his general attitude towards Wren and his work, Mr. Perks rather dwells on the view that Wren was more of a business man than an architect. He tells us that Wren prepared his hurried scheme in three days: but has Mr. Perks made any research concerning Wren's meanderings during the period of the Great Fire, because if he was a great business man he would be thinking about his plan then. My own feeling is that a really great architect must necessarily be a good business man. With regard to the plan itself, from what plans of other towns of Europe could Wren have obtained ideas? The Piazza del Popolo, with its radiating streets, the Corso, and others whose names I forget, were laid out in 1570, that is to say, nearly a hundred years before the Great Fire; and certain towns in Italy had prepared big plans—Leghorn, for instance. But practically nothing had been done in France: the

great schemes of Louis XIV. were hardly matured. Therefore, comparing it with all the plans that have been prepared subsequently, there is no doubt Wren's plan was an extraordinarily fine piece of work. I might comment upon three details of the plan which occurred to me when looking at the slides. In the first place, of all the plans shown Wren's was the only one which continued a street of first-rate importance parallel to the River, and the continuity of the Strand. All successfully planned towns which are on a river front, or on a sea front, have, it is curious to note, a second street from the river or sea front of first-rate importance. Whether Wren instinctively or consciously planned that street, I do not know, but his plan is the only one which preconceives that most important feature. In the second place, Wren, in his more mature scheme, turns all his cross streets into his main streets at right angles. Mr. Perks has pointed out that this was done by Dance, but he did it in all cases where the angle was in any sense acute. Mr. Perks said that Wren paid no thought to the right-

angle junction of his streets. I consider, however, that practically all Wren's streets were laid out with right-angle junctions, and I think Mr. Perks is counting many streets which do not join at quite a right angle by a matter of only two or three degrees. The point is that Wren made a great effort to connect his streets at right angles, whereas Dance practically only cut off the corners and so gave a very awkward building site. Wren produced practically square sites every time. There is another point. Wren's scheme was a big conception; he was not allowing himself to be thwarted by side issues, such as considering merely—as Evelyn did—the preservation of ancient churchyards, water-pipes and so forth. He took the "big view" and did his best to carry it through. There are many other points which strike me as showing extraordinary capacity for such a conception at such a time, especially remembering the speed with which it was undertaken. Therefore I am sorry to have to join issue with Mr. Perks and stand up in support of the plan of Wren.

Sir BANISTER FLETCHER [F.], Ex-Sheriff: It gives me very great pleasure to second this vote of thanks. I think we may take it that there is no keener student of London architecture than Mr. Perks. But I must say I disagree with most of what he has said to-night. My own opinion—and I put it to Mr. Perks as one which is, perhaps, worthy of some consideration—is, that Wren's plan was merely a sketch and that he never really believed it could be carried out. Many of the points Mr. Perks has brought forward are obviously weak ones. His principal point was, that Wren's plan took no account of the main thoroughfares. Any town-planning scheme, however grandiose and however good, which leaves these main ideas out of consideration must be doomed to failure. As one who has worked under the shadow of St. Paul's for many years, I must say that we owe a great deal to Wren; and probably one of the things we owe most to him was that his town-planning scheme was never carried out. We might have got a continental town; a town-planning scheme such as many of our members are busy designing now, but we should have lost London, and that would have been a greater loss than could have been made up by any town-planning scheme. Mr. Perks, again, was rather hard on Wren with regard to the Guildhall. Mr. Perks and I have had something to do with retaining one of the great features in the façade of that building. But what would any other architect have done at the time of the Great Fire? Wren followed the universal custom. People had begun to look down upon Gothic architecture, regarding it as a degraded form of art, just as our present architecture will be regarded in the years to come. (Laughter.) It is a question of fashion, and Wren did just what every other man did at that time in reconstructing; he did it in the prevailing fashion of the age, that is, the incoming Renaissance. Therefore I think we should hardly reflect upon Wren for what he did at the Guildhall. But whatever Wren did not do,

he certainly left London one of the most beautiful cities in the world. If you go to the top of St. Paul's, and look at the fifty churches he left behind, and note the magnificent and varied treatment he has given to them, situated, as they are, as satellites round the magnificent structure of St. Paul's, you must realise that he made London one of the most beautiful cities in the world, and that will always remain as one of the greatest things that Sir Christopher Wren did for London, and, indeed, for the Empire. When we think of the small men who are designing in these days, when we think of the war memorials which are being designed and then think of the terrible things which might have happened in the days of Wren, I think we must feel proud of our great Renaissance Architect. And although he may have produced a scheme merely sketchily drawn out—which he thought would never be brought to fruition—we, as architects and citizens, owe him one of the greatest debts of gratitude that we can think of. I leave off on that note: that Wren has done for us more than any other architect, even including Inigo Jones, or any other who ever lived in this England of ours.

Mr. WM. WOODWARD [F.]: I agree with Professor Adshead and ex-Sheriff Sir Banister Fletcher that Mr. Perks has not passed any eulogium upon Sir Christopher Wren. Sir Christopher Wren designed a plan for the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire, and one of the criticisms which Mr. Perks has passed on the plan is that he contrived it in two or three days. But great geniuses do not require even three or four hours, let alone days, for their conceptions. It has been said to-night that Wren was not permitted to carry out his original plan. With all due deference to Mr. Perks, I prefer to rely upon the *Life of Sir Christopher Wren*, written by James Elmes in 1823, and when I quote these words I do so in admiration of Sir Christopher Wren, who has certainly left one of the most magnificent examples of architectural art ever conceived by any architect. Elmes says (Preface): Wren "experienced the ingratitude of contemporaries, and the apathy of successors, in a more extraordinary degree than perhaps ever befel a man of equal talents, of equal public utility, and of equal celebrity." P. 216: "Melioration money paid to several proprietors, who had their ground taken away for the making of wharfs, enlarging of streets, making of new streets and market places, etc." P. 222.—Rebuilding after the Fire: The scheme provided "that there should be a fair quay, or wharf, on all the riverside, and prohibited the erection of any houses to be inhabited by *brewers, dyers or sugar-bakers*, which trades, by their continual smoke, contributed very much to the unhealthiness of the adjacent places; but that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen were to propose such a place or places as might be fit for those trades; and that compensation would be granted to the proprietors of such houses or lands as were taken for the public benefit."—Note by Elmes thereon: "This noble and beneficial design, which it was the intention

of the legislature, on the recommendation and from the designs of Wren, to carry into effect, has been gradually rendered ineffectual, and is now nearly destroyed, by the cupidity of certain brewers, &c., whose very trades were prohibited by this proclamation to be carried on, in this situation, but who have nearly built a series of wretched store-houses over this intended quay, and would have completely robbed the public of the little now left but for the interference of a few public-spirited neighbours, who opposed an intended bill for stopping them all up by repealing the Act of 22 Charles II, cap. 2." The plan was to construct a "grand public quay from London Bridge to the Temple, as granted to the citizens by Charles, but also as far as Westminster, and on both sides of the Thames by inclosing from the mud nearly to low water mark, which is public property." Regarding Wren's plan for London, notwithstanding what Mr. Perks said, I rely upon James Elmes's statement showing how Wren's grand design was frustrated. Although Mr. Perks says there is no record whatever of the opposition raised by these Aldermen, I think, from what I have read of the history of London, that it was extremely probable that these Aldermen would not allow their property to be altered: they wanted to build their wharves and houses on the same lines as before, and that upset that part of Wren's scheme. I never knew, until Mr. Perks showed us the first design of Wren, that St. Paul's Cathedral occupied so small an area in comparison with the design he had for the street. I agree with Mr. Perks that if Wren contemplated that street with the superficial area for the Cathedral shown in the plan, Wren would have made a great mistake. But, apart from that, we do not know to-day what influences were brought to bear to prevent the carrying out of the magnificent plan which Wren designed. As has already been so well said by previous speakers, Sir Christopher Wren was a great architect, the greatest architect we have ever had, and I am only sorry that Mr. Perks should have taken away somewhat from the credit we have always given to Wren for his plan for rebuilding London. Most of us will agree that if Wren's plan for London had been carried out we should have had a far better city than we have to-day. At the same time, I endorse all that has been said about Mr. Perks's painstaking inquiry and the way in which he has put before us the results of his researches.

Professor RICHARDSON: I propose to say only a few words on this important subject—first, of what we know concerning the planning of London in the year 1666. Both before and after the Fire great use was made of the river as a means of getting about. It was to me a pleasure during the recent railway strike to see the steamers proceeding from Richmond to London crowded with passengers. I think we ought to make more use of our noble Thames. Another point is that in 1666 the citizens enjoyed the privilege of having the fields very near their shops and offices. Frequent excursions were made to the

fields at St. Pancras to take the air, and it was the custom for certain citizens to attend services at the church in Clerkenwell, as well as to make excursions to Lisson Grove and other places near London. From that I think we ought to make every endeavour to conserve the ring of country within ten miles from Charing Cross for the enjoyment of present-day citizens. It is not generally known, but we have it on the authority of an obscure letter written by Pepys, that the streets, as proposed by Sir C. Wren, were actually staked out for Londoners to see. Unfortunately, the brilliant scheme never got beyond the staking process. In 1666 a certain Colonel Birch raised the question in Parliament that the lands devastated by the Fire should be sold and placed in trust, and that the trustees should have power to re-sell, giving preference to the former owners. This scheme, unfortunately, fell through, and so a fine chance of re-building London in the grand manner was lost.

Mr. BERNARD KETTLE (Librarian, Guildhall), said there were many mistakes in Elmes's book, and it never did to take what it said unless one could corroborate it. To quote an instance, Elmes gave as the reason why the Grub Street name was altered to Milton Street was because a speculator bought the houses in the street and changed the name to his own name, which was Milton. But that was not the case. The reason was that the inhabitants complained that their business was prejudiced by the name, and they petitioned the Commissioners of Sewers—who were then the Street Authority—to change it.

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the vote, said he thought they would all congratulate themselves that Wren's original plan in its entirety was not carried out, for, if it had been, we should not have had the magnificent building which was the glory of the Empire—St. Paul's Cathedral—as we now find it.

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS, in the course of his reply, said: When I consented to read this paper I was aware I was starting on something new and venture-some, and I wrote our Secretary telling him I should come here in a tank and wear a gas mask; but the discussion has gone off much more peacefully than I expected. For some years I have been trying to write the history of the Mansion House and that district, and when I got as far as the date of the Fire the locality began to open out. I have a rather inquisitive mind, and I like to find out from original documents why certain things were done. I thought the subject of to-night's debate was hardly suitable for a book on one locality, so I wrote a paper on it and I consider it a great honour to submit it to this Institute. I wanted to throw entirely new light on a most interesting subject and not to come here and tell you what you can read in books, and know already. With regard to rushing out the plans, I quoted from Evelyn's Diary, etc., and I have given you chapter and verse for my conclusions generally with regard to the history of the

proceedings. Mr. Woodward is quite right about certain opposition: it occurred during the passage of the Bill through Parliament. The Privy Council might have liked Wren's plan, we do not know if they did or did not, but we do know they had it before them. I read a letter which has never been published: it was stated on behalf of the King that if any man built on his old foundations the premises might be pulled down as His Majesty was considering a scheme for new streets. Three days afterwards the King signed a declaration that people could build on their old foundations and fronting the old streets, and that certain streets would be widened. That meant that Wren's scheme was rejected. In the same month the Bill was drafted, and the Act was passed within four months of the disaster. It was called "The Act for Rebuilding the City of London," the embankment was dealt with under the Act. I have here extracts from the Privy Council documents regarding the Corporation and procedure under the Bill. I believe they have never been published: they will be printed as an appendix to my paper. I agree that Elmes is unreliable, but I believe the man who started all the trouble was Gwynn. If Mr. Woodward will turn to Appendix XIII of Elmes's book he will see it is headed "Proposals for Rebuilding the City of London after the Great Fire.—By Sir Christopher Wren." You would think Sir Christopher Wren wrote it, but it is a copy of part of *Parentalia*. Another unreliable book says the great charm of Wren's plan was that all the streets were to be at right angles, which they were not. With regard to Dance's idea, he had to cast a wide street through other streets, and there had to be awkward angles, but he schemed so as to cut off the ends of acute angles and build so that the side streets are at right angles to King William Street for a short distance. It was a piece of very clever planning. I have put before you three plans of Wren's, two of them I believe have never been reproduced, and I hope I have given you new facts and references. I based my arguments on those facts. It would, of course, be impertinent for me to criticise Wren's architectural genius, but his town planning scheme was produced in a great hurry, and I think Sir Banister Fletcher is quite right—the scheme might have been great, but we ought to be thankful it was not carried out.

#### Professor Lethaby on Minor City Improvements

(*Builder*, 5th Dec. 1916).

No. XI. of Professor W. R. Lethaby's "Observations and Suggestions," which have appeared at intervals in *The Builder* of late months, suggests an easily managed and comparatively inexpensive improvement of what the author has called the "Forum of London"—embracing Whitehall with Trafalgar Square at the top and Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament at the other end, "forming a unit," suggests the Professor, "which in more than one sense is the ceremonial and organic centre of larger London—the

Kingdom and the Commonwealth." The article continues:—

The two "places" and the connecting street form almost a scheme which nearly reaches to order and dignity. With a little modification of the lines near the N.W. corner, where Whitehall opens into Trafalgar Square, and the rebuilding of a few shabby frontages, the three parts might readily be thought of as one civic whole and . . . would furnish the proper site for our most honourable public monuments . . .

There is no harm, I think, in Parliament Street not being in a tight line between the two open areas: a very slight modification would put it into a reasoned relation with the National Gallery and the Nelson column. The essence of my proposal is that the two squares and linking street should be considered as one whole and given a special status in the organic system of the Metropolis. Then various problems connected with this selected area should be dealt with as opportunity offers from the point of view of civil order, public dignity and necessary tidiness. I should fear any grand scheme of changing the character of what we know so well. I would not sacrifice even the wretched fountains of Trafalgar Square, or violently attack the Nelson column: but, taking all but a bare minimum for granted, we should seek amelioration by slight modification and carefully considered *additions of high quality*.

The front of the National Gallery is, in itself, pleasant enough: at least, it is not vulgar, and it is better to be dull than aggressively "artistic." We don't want "Jazz" architecture everywhere. Of late years, with the progressive loss of the sense of public propriety and the instinct for what is "not done," all sorts of wretched accretions and mean adjuncts have intruded on the roof of the old building. The simplest way to deal with these horrors and imbecilities would be to raise the parapet by inserting a few feet of plain masonry under the balustrade. The terrace wall in front of the National Gallery is quite fine (for us!), and nothing, except possibly some sculptured reliefs of a high order, should be allowed to encroach on it. Some lamps, which stand at the terminations of the lateral enclosing walls, are of exceptional excellence: I should like to know who designed them. He did his public duty. The commercial-looking fountains, sad and grim, might well form the bases for bronze accessories, which would, at least, make them tolerable. The Nelson Column is a very middling and maddling monument: but it is one of the few national symbols we have and the lions are fine and even noble. . . . The column and the statue are a little difficult, but I am sure they might be immensely improved if we wished by some reasonable additions and by cleaning and smartening. If only the statue and the Corinthian capital were gilt, it would make a gleaming mass that would reflect the sun and shine afar. Gilding is one of the legitimate means of adorning a "Forum," and has been traditional from the days of the golden milestone in Rome to those of the City Square in Brussels. Nelson's statue looks mean and forlorn and the great capital has "too little to do." If some little open metal rotunda or kiosk were erected about the statue, something like a bird cage, having four big openings, with the standards rising from the angles of the capital, that would greatly help it. Then statues could be grouped around the column itself, supported on corbels, and sets of big bronze wreaths might be hung below the capital. Finally, we must have some flowering shrubs; they might be supported on light iron gratings over the water basins, out of the way of the active boy. . . .

## REVIEWS. STANDARDISATION.

*Standard Notation for Engineering Formulae. Report of the Science Committee of the Concrete Institute. With Explanatory Notes by E. Fiander Etchells. Published by E. & F. N. Spon, Ltd., 57 Haymarket, S.W.1. Price 6s. 3d. post free from the Secretary, Concrete Institute, Denison House, 296 Vauxhall Bridge Road, Westminster, S.W.1.*

The tendency to standardisation in almost every department of life is one of the most notable features among the developments of the last half century. Fashion, which dates at least from the time when our ancestors used blue wool as a covering, is the attempt to set up an arbitrary standard, which loses its charm as soon as it is generally adopted, and for that very reason is totally opposed to the kind of standardisation we have in view. There is no standard of beauty; the copper-haired saints of Rossetti, the black-haired beauties of Italy and Spain, the blondes of Northern Europe, all have their admirers and we are justified in allowing each to be representative of a glorious type. Standardisation means uniformity, but uniformity utterly destroys art, while it is perfection when applied to mechanism. When the writer was a lad, if a nut was lost off a bolt a new bolt had to be made, as no other nut could be found to fit it. Then came Sir Joseph Whitworth, who laid down a standard of proportions, and the difficulties vanished. This was the beginning of a great movement. With the spread of machinery, manufacturers found it to their interest to design standard patterns, with the parts so accurately formed as to be perfectly interchangeable, and the division of labour enabled them to pay good wages and yet keep down the cost to the lowest limit. This specialisation on the part of a few firms led others to appreciate the advantages which it offered, and the outcome of it was the formation of the Engineering Standards Committee eighteen years ago, during which time it has done an enormous amount of valuable work. It has standardised the details of many different things, from locomotives to drain pipes, of which the particulars are given in over a hundred reports. Portland cement and structural steel need only be named among them to bring home to architects the value of the services rendered, especially if they are old enough to remember the chaos that previously existed. The modern developments of steel frame construction and reinforced concrete have driven the architect to extend his view beyond the confines of art to some of the branches of science, particularly that of mechanics. He has had perforce to refer to text-books and formulae. Being conscientious, he has endeavoured to check his notions by referring to more than one book, and then his troubles began. He found *L* might mean length or load, *D* depth or distance, *S* stress or span, and so on; intensity of pressure might be *p* or *f*, radius of gyration *r*, *k*, or *g*; and there was no sort of uniformity to be found among

the different authors, so that each had to occupy valuable space in explaining what the letter stood for with him, but this did not help much in comparing different formulæ. In view of this "clashing of the symbols" [? cymbals] the Civil and Mechanical Engineers' Society, followed by the Society of Engineers, and later by the Concrete Institute, endeavoured to find some common ground of expression, so that the different formulæ for the same thing could be intelligently compared, but it was not until Mr. E. Fiander Etchells took the matter up that any firm progress was made. He brought to bear upon it his ripe mathematical knowledge and scientific devotion, and not only laid a good foundation but reared a noble structure in his scheme of Standard Notation. Taking as his basis that one letter or symbol should have only one meaning, he cast about to find the best principle to work upon and decided that the notation should be as nearly mnemonic as possible. With this object he proceeded by successive curtailment, thus diameter = diam = dia = *d*, or radius = rad = *r*, *d* and *r* being sufficient to indicate diameter and radius respectively and to recall these words. At the same time the lesser letters (*a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, etc.) indicate relative lesser-ness, such as *lineal* dimensions, while the greater letters (*A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, etc.) indicate relative greater-ness, such as *products* of lineal measurements including mass, volumes, moments, etc. It is unnecessary to detail here all the reasoning that has been adopted in fixing the significance of the various symbols. It will be found fully explained in *Mnemonic Notation for Engineering Formulae*, being the report of the Science Committee of the Concrete Institute, with explanatory notes by E. Fiander Etchells. This notation was adopted by the R.I.B.A. in the Second Report of the Joint Committee on Reinforced Concrete, and by the Institution of Civil Engineers in the Second Report of the Committee on Reinforced Concrete. It has also been adopted by other bodies and by numerous private authors, and its general use will considerably help the student to appreciate the similarity in apparently diverse formulæ and lessen his labour of assimilation.

HENRY ADAMS, M.Inst.C.E.

## THE MAESTRI COMACINI.

*Further Notes on the Comacine Masters. By W. Rattus-croft. Reproduced from "The Builder," the official journal of the National Museum Research Society, Annapolis, Iowa. (With a postscript showing, by an oblique line, Comacine, the Isola Comacina and related points at Annapolis and at opposite shore. Also many other illustrations, including a portrait of the author.)*

The name of Comacini was derived from a body of Italian architects who built for the Lombards and who kept alive those art traditions, well nigh smothered under the overwhelming weight of misfortune which pressed upon the peninsula in every shape after the invasion of those barbarians. For twenty years after Alboinus and his followers overran the plains of Lombardy, the Isola Comacina, which held out against their power under Francione, an



imperial partisan, contained numbers of fugitives from all parts of Italy, amongst whom were many skilled artisans known as the Maestri Comacini, a name afterwards changed into that of 'Casari' or 'Casarii'—builders of houses. After they had submitted to the invaders, their college or guild was favoured by the Lombard kings: its members were enfranchised, made citizens, and allowed certain important privileges, such as that of making contracts, which were not, however, conceded to their assistants."

The well-known authority on the History of Masonry, Mr. W. Ravenscroft [F.], the architect, has supplemented his book, which Elliot Stock published for him under the title of "The Comacini, their Predecessors and their Successors," by issuing recently some "Further Notes on the Comacine Masters." In directing attention to this matter, the above quotation from Perkin's "Italian Sculptors" supplies a concise summary in relation to the origin of the nomenclature of this subject, and thus conveniently serves as a prelude to a brief notice of Mr. Ravenscroft's architectural pamphlet now added to the Institute library. The author's original treatise concluded with certain definite deductions. These are enumerated at the outset of his present brochure, and begin with a reference to the influence of a pre-Christian race of Hametic descent, subsequently known in Syria, Asia Minor, in Greece and Italy, as the Etruscans. The Hittites, who built the Temple at Jerusalem are mentioned with an additional note as to the arts of Rome having been acquired from the Etruscans. The Collegia of Artificers developed when Rome still possessed the traditions of King Solomon's time. On the downfall of Rome, the Guild of Artificers decamped and settled in the Como district, making their headquarters on the Island of Comacina or *Isola St. Giovanni*. From thence spread their influence all over Western Europe, including the British Isles. These guilds as they migrated and dispersed merged into the masonic craft of the Middle Ages, and the author claims that as these ancient traditions spread and the old forms and ceremonies became obscured by time, they were preserved more or less by the modern lodges in English and American masonry. In quest of further evidence since the issue of his book seven years ago, Mr. Ravenscroft has followed up his previous studies by many personal surveys in various Italian towns, and more particularly urban centres in the vicinity of Como, where he was assisted by Cav. A. G. Caprari, the owner of the Island of Comacina, who likewise furnished him with introductions to eminent Italian archaeologists. In this way a new collection of drawings and notes has formed the basis of his present paper, wherein he sums up his investigation after a review of all the accumulated items of evidence by arriving at the conclusion that we must recognise a chain which consistently extends from the Roman Collegia through the Comacines to the mediæval guilds and henceforward to contemporary masonic lodges, who hold

in trust the traditions and associations inherited from their ancestors. The author recognises the speculative aspects of the matter and the theoretical application of this inheritance; indeed, he admits quite plainly that he always regarded the historic preamble as more or less hypothetical, specially in relation to centuries before Christ.

The far-reaching and wonderful story about the origin and evolution of the Dragon from Babylon and Egypt has led to many diverse speculations, and that mythological tradition has its counterpart in the historical enquiry as to the original inspiration of the Lion in art, traced by some archaeologists to the Hittites, on which question the late Tavenor Perry is quoted as an authority.

The Etruscan lions, employed so freely for the bases of columns and portals in later Italian sculpture, are instanced, and we are reminded in this connection of the lion discovered a short time since at Corstopitum, near Corbridge-on-Tyne, during some excavations. It is said to be remarkably typical of the Comacine variety. Roman in character and yet suggesting artistic tendencies which distinctly anticipated the craft of the Middle Ages. The same indications of progressive advance mark the architectural planning found among Comacines, whether their buildings were intended for an oratory, a church or a cathedral. Their prototypes in all cases are found in Rome. In illustration of this the author directs attention to the plan of the Oratory of St. Benedetto in Civate, which also, in the shaping of its roof, shows a striking resemblance to "The Memorial Cella" in the cemetery of St. Callisto, one of the most ancient Christian buildings still standing in Rome. The Comacine church of Sta. Maria del Tiglio, at Gravedona on Lake Como, is also very like the second century chapel of St. Priscilla, one of the most ancient in the Catacombs, and which is almost identical in plan.

The baptisteries near Como, such as the one at Lenno, likewise seem to have been modelled on early Roman ones of Christian design dating from the establishment of the Catholic Faith under the patronage of Constantine.

The larger churches of St. Benedetto di Monte Oltrone, with its side aisles; St. Giovanni at Bellagio; St. Eufemia on the Island of Comacina; St. Abbondio at Como, as well as others, are instanced as following with slight variations the type of plan which distinguished the Early Christian basilican churches in Rome.

Mr. Ravenscroft usefully sets out a series of examples for comparison, and goes on to say that when the Comacines developed and moved eastward much of their work was marked by Byzantine influence. Meanwhile, ecclesiastically, the whole tendency of the Comacine church, under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Aquileja, looked to Byzantium rather than Rome, and at this date the inhabitants of the island depended *de facto* on the Patriarch of

Constantinople. Their descendants in Varenna to this day are called "Patriarchini." "Geographically as well as through the religious attitude of its hierarchy this district could not be other than a direct and easy channel for the flow of Eastern ideas in matters of art as well as religion." This influence distinguished in a very marked degree their development of architectural style, and generally their buildings naturally embodied the essentials of the Greek plan, including the adaptation of the dome on essentially Byzantine lines. In its more elementary form the Greek type of plan would consist of a nave, presbytery, and possibly transepts, all approximately of equal length, with a cupola over the crossing. The Comacines sometimes employed the dome, but instances are not common. This dominating feature might equally well arrive from Rome, and it is not assumed that it came exclusively from Byzantium. The Pantheon at Rome had been a familiar example for centuries, but the Duomo at Ancona illustrates a relationship with the Byzantine dome. This church is basilican in lay-out, and had the altar set at the west end, while the portal was at the eastern extremity of the building. The structure dates from A.D. 500. Six hundred years later the church was turned into a Greek cross and the altar was located in the new choir towards the north, and the dome belongs to this period.

In the pamphlet comparative photographs of much interest are reproduced side by side, showing the Xth century church of St. Benedetto, Civate, Como, and the Cella St. Callisto at Rome, built in the XIth century. They are very similar in general proportions, though windows occur in the later church as essential features with other items of detail. The plan of St. Pietro al Monte, Como, is given, showing its elaborated enclosed porch or narthex at the east end, while the altar under a baldachino is set about half-way almost in the middle of the church, a considerable distance in front of the apse, which has an encircling mural bench for the seating of the clergy or choir. This example of XIth century ecclesiastical ritual when the celebrant faced the east adds much to the architectural value of Mr. Ravenscroft's illustrations. The church in question was built about a century prior to the dissolution of the Guild, which synchronises with the fall of Comacina, when individual craftsmen carried away in all directions their Comasque traditions as they evacuated the fortified island of the lake, called by Abbot Florino "Christopolis," because it was the place of refuge of peaceful Romans who escaped from the Lombard invasions and devastations long before.

A list of British churches is given by the author for reference, showing, as he sets out to claim, it is more than a coincidence that their original plans illustrate the Comacine influence, confirmed likewise as this is by their caps and columns and other essential details of design. Rochester's first Cathedral; St. Pancras Church at Canterbury; remains of two early chapels at

Christchurch Priory; Corehampton, Hants; Bradford-on-Avon; Escomb, Durham; Monkwearmouth in the same county, as well as at Jarrow; Corbridge, Northumberland; Boarhurst and Hambledon, Hants; also others whose basilican forms with aisles and apses have been obscured by later additions, such as happened at St. Wilfrid's Church, Hexham, and St. Wilfrid's, Ripon; Brixworth, built about A.D. 680; Lydd Church, Kent; Wing in Bedfordshire, and the ruined church at the Reculvers, Kent. Besides these, reference is made to the original cathedral church at Canterbury, destroyed in 1067; the first church at Romsey; the crypt of Winchester Cathedral, and the parish church of Goring in Oxfordshire. This list does not include basilican churches in this country which had rectangular chancels, drawn most likely from later types and free of Comacine associations. Perhaps the most distinguishing architectural feature in this connection consists in their campanili of early date, for they abound in Italy, but not elsewhere. The splendid tower at Sompting, in Sussex, though much reduced in height since it was built, clearly owes its erection to foreign influence and probably Comacine craftsmen.

MAURICE B. ADAMS [F.].

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Housing Problem.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

DEAR SIR,—With further reference to the most interesting paper by Mr. Davidge, Housing Commissioner for the London Area, I should like to make reference to the following points. First as to

#### *The Position of the Factory*

Under the paragraph "State Aid," Mr. Davidge, in dealing with the uncertainties as to the provision of houses to be made in any particular district, states that "the calculations of any outlying district may at any moment be upset by the whim of any large factory owner or other employer of labour who comes or goes."

In practice I have never come across such a state of affairs. In pre-War days one's clients always made the question of "labour"—viz., proximity of houses of the working classes—their primary consideration when selecting their factory sites, and quite as important as that of railway sidings, transport facilities, and room for extension. After the greatest consideration had been given to these main points, and the lesser ones of rates and taxes, roads, subsoil, water supply, drainage, etc., the necessary decision was arrived at, and the outlay of perhaps many thousands of pounds on the erection of a factory commenced.

To term a large decision of this nature, probably supported by legal and professional advice, a "whim" on the part of a large factory owner is, I submit, not supported by facts. As to the large factory owner suddenly going, surely that could only be by reason of the total failure of his scheme—viz., bankruptcy, or

because of miscalculation as to the room for extension, or on other points connected with his original decision. In the latter case it is usually found that the factory buildings became available for another factory owner of lesser degree, whilst the former owner cuts his losses and removes to a wider sphere.

Considering the housing problem economically, together with the transport to their daily work of the fortunate inmates of these new houses of the working classes, I am of the opinion that it is of enormous importance that some of these new colonies should have in their immediate neighbourhood certain lands suitable and allocated as factory sites.

As a matter of practical finance, the factory owner cannot nowadays go into the "wilds," erect his factory, and build his garden village for his employees, the village not even with the assistance of a State subsidised Public Utility Society, unless, as a set-off to the nomination of his own employees as first tenants, he is content to receive little or no interest on his share of the capital outlay on the village.

The cost of building nowadays and scarcity of lodgings compels the factory owner to erect his works near "labour," quite apart from the fact that when the factory is up he is again dependent on the proximity of "labour." It is obvious, therefore, that new factories must follow and adjoin the new housing colonies. Consider the question of rates: it is well known what a welcome addition to the income of the local authority is caused by the advent of the factory and machinery. In some districts the local surveyor calculates that every new house for the working classes causes an additional fraction on the rates, and that it is only by the factory assessments that the rates can remain at a practical figure. For the above reasons I do therefore most strongly urge that space for the "position of the factory" should be planned, considered and allowed for in the proximity of new housing schemes and advertised. If this is not done, I fear that when the "whim" on the part of the large factory owner occurs, and it surely will, it will then be too late to consider the amenities and general planning of the neighbourhood. In the meantime the inmates of the new colony passing through other areas to their daily work will further congest our railways and transport facilities.

The second point I wish to make is in reference to

#### *Economical Tendering.*

The Housing Commissioner tells us that "the high tenders now being received make it for the time being necessary to reduce the dimensions of the houses to the lowest possible terms consistent with efficient housekeeping." Sir Tudor Walters' speech in the House last Monday evening, 1st December, gives reasons for the above, which must be considered most seriously by our profession, and in view of our President's appeal, coupled with one's experiences in daily practice, it is obvious that unless these high tenders are reduced to economical tendering the consequences will be very serious.

My opinion, shared, I think, by many members, is that the houses are put out to tender for contracts of such large sums that the small builders are not in a position to compete; if they do, large sums for plant, increase of staff, etc., are added on to the tenders in order to allow for the risks undertaken, and also for transport of labour. When we see advertisements in the papers of a southern county asking for mechanics to proceed to the Midlands on housing schemes, thus causing further housing scarcity, I think it is time a halt should be called, and the position reconsidered.

The only way to procure reasonable tenders is, I submit, by way of decentralisation of the architect and the builder by splitting up many of the contracts into smaller dimensions, even down to the limit of one pair of cottages.

There is a very great gain by having one Chief Architect in charge of a district scheme, say, of 500 houses, owing to the preliminary town planning and general arrangements with the authorities and the Ministry, but when it comes to the placing of the contract for even a tenth part of his scheme, enormous difficulties arise, whereas if the Chief Architect split his work among all members of his profession in the district, who each have their own following of small builders ready and anxious to give reasonable tenders to those for whom they are accustomed to tender, I contend that the whole state of affairs would be radically altered.

One has only to compare the number of houses in these schemes together with the number of Architects who are without any housing work whatever (including those recently demobilised) to understand some of the reasons for the want of success in obtaining economical tenders. Thousands of houses are to be built, and hundreds of builders ready to economically carry out the work for their customary Architects, provided the contracts are split into reasonably small amounts.

I therefore ask all Chief Architects to consider whether it would not be the best policy to offer a few of their houses to their professional brethren who may be in a position to do the work, and who would carry out the business with the Chief Architect as their client. There is plenty of scope for the large contractor without his journeying so far afield as appears to be the present situation, with the unfortunate result of upsetting all the local labour conditions, as well as causing great scarcity of lodging accommodation. As it is, we see in some cases, where the local builders are not put in a position to tender, either no tenders at all, or very high tenders from large contractors whose works and labour are situated perhaps in the next county or still further away. I submit, therefore, that further distribution of the housing work amongst Architects as a whole, and this particularly refers to London and surrounding counties, would be most beneficial, and be the means of enabling many of the smaller builders to take a part in presenting economical tenders.

In London and neighbourhood there appear to be approximately 1,500 Architects, say, 600 firms, and if all these firms were available to carry out the 60,000 houses estimated to be required, each firm would have contracts of £80,000 to offer to builders! When one goes even into such approximate figures, the magnitude of the problem is realised and one can see what enormous quantities of labour and material are required, and I suggest that unless every firm of Architects lends a hand to push the scheme, the majority of these houses will not be erected in our time. The amount of private work apart from luxury building, is increasing so rapidly with new factories, shop premises, large engineering schemes, etc., etc., that there will be, I think, enormous competition to get labour and material next year. This year's contracts have been difficult enough, what will they be like next year when the houses commence?

I should like to add a disclaimer as to any personal ambition to have the task of obtaining economical tenders for £80,000 worth of houses. My letter has been prompted by difficulties with factory erection in the eastern counties and Midlands this year, coupled with the fact that none of my recently demobilised friends in the profession seem to have a single Cottage Commission between them, and I believe there are others. Next year, when they are full up with private work, I fear it will be too late to offer them cottages, but perhaps by that time the battle between private building and State building may be settled once for all.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN O. SEARLE [J.]

#### Dividing the Profession.

13 Dec. 1919.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR.—The wholesale blackballing of 62 candidates for the Associateship last June left the Council no course but to take effective means to set that matter right. I doubt the wisdom of the method adopted for its rectification, and, anyhow, the meeting held on the 1st December was not an eminent success, although the suspension of By-laws 10 and 11 was carried by more than five to one. I twice rose to take part in the discussion but did not insist, so gave way to others, being more anxious to listen than to hear myself speak. I was not alone also in refraining from taking part in the voting. I did not vote because of a doubt as to the necessity of suspending the By-laws to meet the case, and I also felt that some of the names in the June list should not have been included. As a matter of fact, without consulting anyone, I helped to blackball all the candidates who had failed to come forward for their Final Examination who had qualified in the "Intermediate" before 1909. I was not aware of the local concerted action in Sheffield and Liverpool about which so much was said at the Special General Meeting at Conduit Street on 1st December. In so far as the out-of-date lists can be quoted, the members in these two important centres, Fellows and

Associates, all told only count about fifty individuals, a somewhat insignificant minority.

The purpose of this letter is to add what I intended to refer to at the meeting; but it is not so much concerned with this transitory question as to concessions consequent upon the war or in regard to the failure of the June election of Associates. I point to the chronic failure on the part of the Associates, who, as a class, do not recognise their personal obligations to the Institute, seeing that only so few seek the distinction of the Fellowship. Instead of adding their weight and support, enriching the Society by superior ability and augmented income, not a few fully qualified Associates in lucrative architectural practice, and men well able to pay the higher subscription, rest content to remain Associates. This is unfair and unfortunate. But not infrequently these gentlemen are the very foremost to complain because the constitution denies them the full power of voting on By-law and other questions, also they are ready enough to charge the Council with trying to divide the ranks of the profession.

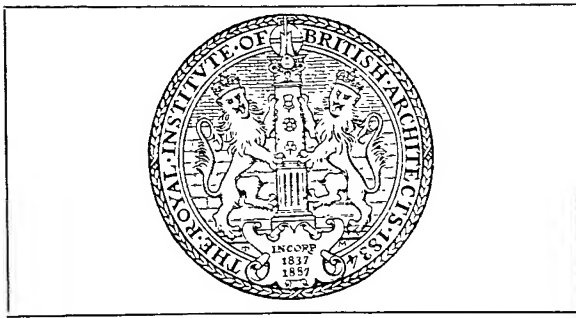
This brings me to even a more serious subject still, because, of all matters calculated to split up the architectural profession, the founding of an association to further the interests of salaried architects in defiance of the welfare of architects in private practice is most likely to disrupt the general harmony of the Institute. Prior to our Special General Meeting on 1st December, a gathering took place with this end in view: and those who came red-handed to Conduit Street from that assembly to vote against the Council and the policy of giving war concessions to Associate candidates, glibly spoke about the terrible risk of dividing the profession's ranks throughout the Empire by suspending *pro tem.* the By-laws 10 and 11. These objectors had helped to found a most one-sided professional society of so-called "Qualified Architects" without any guarantee that only candidates who have passed an examination equal to that qualifying for the R.I.B.A. Associateship shall be elected. Anything more inconsistent can hardly be conceived.

I am not objecting to organisation. It is the only way to advance and prosper. My point is that loyalty to the *alma mater* imposes definite duties and obligations. Has the Institute declined to further the interest of its members as a whole, or is it attacked because a certain section wish to prosper to the disadvantage of the remainder?

MAURICE B. ADAMS [F].

#### Books Received.

- THE CALIPH'S DESIGN. Architects' Where is your Vortex? By Wyndham Lewis. So. Lond. 1919. 3s. net. [The Egoist, Ltd., 23 Adelphi Terrace House, 2 Robert Street, W.C.2.]
- INDUSTRIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS IN AMERICA: A Development of Group Houses. By Lawrence Veiller. 2nd edition. 40. New York 1919. 25 cents. [National Housing Association Publications, 105 East 22nd Street, New York City.]
- ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE IN MYSORE II The Késava Temple at Belur. By R. Natasimbhachar, M.A., Director of Archeological Researches in Mysore. 40. Bangalore 1919. 7s. 6d. [Curator, Government Book Depot, Bangalore.]



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 20th December 1919.

## CHRONICLE.

### Proposed Suspension of By-laws.

At the Special General Meeting on 1st December it was stated that some members had received their notices for the meeting *less* than seven clear days in advance as required by the By-laws. On enquiry being made, it appeared that a few copies of the JOURNAL containing the notice had not been posted by the printers at the proper time owing to the difficulty of getting men to work overtime at the weekend. The by-law has, therefore, been technically violated, and to put the matter right the Council have decided to summon a further Special General Meeting the date of which will be announced later. Meanwhile the President's letter dealing with the matter from the Council's point of view, and a summary of the debate at the Meeting of the 1st December, are before members in the last number of the JOURNAL, pp. 60 to 63.

### How to Save Coal.

The following letter has been addressed from the Institute to the Editors of the daily and weekly press of the country:—

SIR,—The high cost of Coal and the necessity for conserving the country's supplies make it incumbent upon everyone to economise in its consumption. The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects venture therefore to draw the attention of the public to a means at once simple and effective of achieving this end. A large proportion of our people live in houses still fitted with fire-grates which consume great quantities of coal without giving the consumer anything approaching the full benefits of its combustion. Such people are advised that

Coal can be saved.

Rooms be heated at less cost.

The atmosphere of our great cities be brightened, and

A considerable saving of money be effected

by the following simple means:—

Line your grates with fire-bricks. See that the fire-bricks are high enough to stand up above the fire. Take care that the back brick leans forward and is not more than four inches from the front bars. Fill in the space at the back with fire-clay. See that your register is open not more than one-fourth of its full capacity. If you have no register, partially close the chimney opening with another fire-brick. Fill in the front space beneath the grate with a movable piece of metal. If you cannot do this, put a small fire-tile in the bottom of the grate.

If these directions are carefully followed the consumer will help the Nation to save coal, to lessen transport, to leave larger quantities available for export, and therefore incidentally to reduce taxation.

Your obedient Servant,

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*

### The Birmingham A.A. and the President R.I.B.A.

The following Resolution was passed at a General Meeting of the Birmingham Architectural Association on Friday, the 5th December:—

"That this Meeting of the Birmingham Architectural Association hears with the deepest regret of the indisposition of the President of the Institute, and desires to express the sincere hope that the complete rest and treatment he is about to undergo will speedily restore him to health, so that the Institute and its Allied Societies may again have the benefit of his guidance and energy in the direction of its affairs. The Meeting also desires to acknowledge with sincere thanks the President's kind wishes for the success and prosperity of the Birmingham Architectural Association."

The President has expressed his acknowledgments in the following letter addressed to Mr. Herbert Buckland [F.], President of the Birmingham Association:—

DEAR MR. BUCKLAND.—I am most grateful to you for your kind letter and good wishes. Will you still further oblige me by informing your members how deeply I am touched by their Resolution, and how sensible I am of the kindly and loyal feelings which inspired it.

It is perhaps easy for generous minds to do such things, but it is a very great and significant thing to *think* of them: and I regard your Resolution as a symbol of that unity in the profession of our great Art which will render us invincible in our efforts to advance its interests.—Believe me, dear Mr. Buckland, gratefully and sincerely yours.

JOHN W. SIMPSON.

### Exhibition of the Zeebrugge Memorial Competition Designs.

The private view of the models and drawings exhibited in this Competition, took place on the 16th inst. in the Maddox Street Galleries, which have been lent for the Exhibition by the R.I.B.A. A number of distinguished visitors were present, including the Rt. Hon. Herbert Samuel, M.P., Monsieur Henry (of the Belgian Embassy), Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A., Sir George Frampton, R.A., Sir Cecil Hertslet, Mr. Algernon Maudsley, O.B.E., Admiral Dampier, Lady and Hon. Miss Dorothy Emmot, The Lady Swaythling, Sir James Agg-Gardner, M.P., Sir Isidore Spielmann, Miss Anna Alma-Tadema, Miss Emily Paterson, R.S.W., Sir Reginald and Lady Blomfield, R.A., Admiral Sir Edmund Fremantle, G.C.B., Mr. L. R. Farnell, Rector of Exeter College, Oxford, &c.

The Exhibition will be open free of charge from Wednesday, 17th December, to Wednesday, 24th December, and from Monday, 29th December, to Saturday, 3rd January, 1920, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### A Public Amenities Committee for Bermondsey.

A beautification and public amenities committee is to be appointed by the Bermondsey Borough Council. Among its duties will be the care and acquisition of open spaces, the planting of trees and shrubs in public streets, the improvement of waste spaces, the cultivation by agreement with landlords and tenants of forecourts and front gardens, the provision of boxes and plants for window gardens, and the promotion and encouragement of shows and competitions.

The provision of winter gardens and entertainments comes within the reference of the committee, which will also deal with the regulation of advertisements, the prevention of unsightly erections, refuse dumps, &c.

### National Housing Scheme: Concrete Construction.

Sir J. Tudor Walters, answering a question addressed by Captain R. Terrell to the Minister of Health whether he was taking any action in respect of the proposals for the construction of concrete cottages which were being submitted to him, said: "An expert Committee appointed by me to consider and report on the questions of standardisation and methods of construction in house building have approved twenty-five different methods of building cottages in concrete, and I am urging local authorities to adopt concrete construction where suitable materials are available. Tenders for some 100 concrete houses have been approved by my Department, and a number of other proposals for the erection of concrete houses are included among the house plans approved, but which have not yet reached the stage of tenders."

### The Premier on the Condition of the Building Industry.

Mr. Lloyd George, addressing a special conference of representatives of the Building Trades Industrial Council on the 16th inst., said that he hoped it would be possible after the 1st January to revert to the normal course of business, so that building materials should be available through the ordinary trade channels. The sternest vigilance is being exercised to prevent profiteering in materials, and full advantage will be taken of the Profiteering Act. Speaking of house-building; of the five things essential—viz., sites, cash, material, transport and labour—the determining factor, labour, presented the greatest difficulty, owing to the shortage of men in the industry. There were some 300,000 fewer than before the war. Then, as to the output per man: though an improvement was being effected, the output was appreciably below pre-War days. It was not a question of being exploited for undue profit: the federated builders were doing their best to fix a moderate rate of profit for which their members should be advised to work. He asked employers and workmen to facilitate the introduction of additional labour into the industry, and also improved methods of production. He appealed to the great and small builders to take their fair share of cottage building. Luxury building must be discouraged until the housing difficulties are met.

### The Protection of Old Cottages.

In an article under the above heading in *Housing* for the 8th December, Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A. [F], Hon. Consulting Architect to the Ministry of Health, writes:—

If anyone were asked what was one of the most characteristic features of England he would answer, without hesitation, its country towns and villages. Arranged, as they are, apparently without any very definite plan, the whole effect is homely and pleasant. Every building almost has its strongly-marked individual character; this character is always unobtrusive, and the whole forms a blend which it would be impossible to match anywhere else in the world. Here and there a modern building, ignorantly designed and unskillfully built, thrusts itself into notice, but serves only as a foil to its neighbours, and is mercifully absorbed in the general mass. Not only are these towns and villages satisfying to the eye and soothing to the mind, but they constitute also a record of the lives of those who built them. The history of a nation is inevitably written in its architecture, in the cottage as well as in the church and great house, and to those who have eyes to see, these buildings tell the story of the sturdy life of England for centuries. There is no doubt that the subtle charm of the English village, with its church surrounded by the graves of bygone ancestors of all ranks of life, exerts an unconscious influence on all those who live in it, an influence which deepens the affection for an England which is worth living in and dying for. How often did the thoughts of the men in the trenches turn to their own particular village, their own special dwelling; and stiffen them into a resolve to do and dare everything to guard their country and their homes from the invader!

Unfortunately, although these old buildings were, for the most part, honestly and soundly built by men who knew and loved their craft, advantage has been taken of their apparent indestructibility to leave them without any adequate repair for many years, and in the English climate no building, if neglected, will last for ever. The first part to give way is the roof covering, and water, the greatest foe to buildings next to fire, begins its deadly work. Ceilings fall, rafters and flooring rot, the building soon ceases to be habitable, looks disreputable, is finally condemned to destruction and disappears, and with it disappears a page of precious history.

Now, in the majority of cases this destruction is not only unnecessary, but criminally wasteful. It is not contended that every dilapidated cottage can be repaired, but it must be a very desperate case that will not yield to skilful and experienced treatment. When a building has reached the disreputable stage described above, the Health Officer is almost bound to condemn it, as he is not, of course, technically qualified to say whether it can be repaired or not; his concern is mainly with the health of its inhabitants. I would appeal to all Local Authorities in districts where there are buildings of this description not to be in too great haste to call in the executioner, but, before condemning them to destruction, to seek the advice of those skilled in the treatment of buildings that to the untrained eye have lived their life and seem to cry aloud for removal. Of course, a certain number will be found to be past repair, and it would not be possible economically to attempt to do anything to them unless they were of very special architectural value; but so long as the walls and foundations are sound no building is past repair. With skill and experience the bulk of these houses can be made dry, sweet, clean and healthy dwellings at a far less outlay than would be required to build new ones. Apart altogether from aesthetic considerations, it is both practical and economical to snatch old cottages from destruction and so repair them that at a small outlay they become habitable again without destroying in any way their character or history.

The Ministry will be glad to advise any local authorities

who are uncertain whether cottages, which in their present state have to be condemned, cannot be economically altered so as to bring them up to the required standard

#### British School at Athens: Libri Desiderati.

The Director and Librarian in Athens are most anxious, in the national as well as in the learned interest, that the Library of the School should be a worthy epitome of British Scholarship. From time to time, however, works appear that are quite beyond the ordinary resources of the School, and are yet essential to this purpose. They venture therefore to submit the following list of books to the munificence of friends of the School:—

*The Dictionary of National Biography.*  
*The Encyclopædia Britannica* (latest edition)  
*Hakluyt's Voyages*  
*The Loeb Classical Library.*  
*Scriptorum Classicorum Bibliotheca Oxoniensis*  
*Smith and Solihorp, Flora Graeca.*

Among other lacunæ are:—

British School at Rome: *Catalogue of the Capitoline Museum*, Ed. H. Stuart Jones. 8vo and fto. Clarendon Press, 1912.  
 Cook, A. B.: *Zeus: a Study in Ancient Religion*. 8vo. Cambridge, 1914.  
 Czapliska (M. A.): *Tales of Central Asia in History and at the Present Day*. 8vo. Clarendon Press, 1919.  
 Dawkins, R. M.: *Modern Greek in Asia Minor*. 8vo. Cambridge Press, 1916.  
 Lang, A.: *Home and His Age*. 8vo. Longmans Green & Co., 1906.  
 Leat, W.: *Companion to the Road*. 8vo. Macmillan, 1892.  
 Miller, W.: *History of Ottoman Empire*. 8vo. Cambridge, 1903.  
 Pampelly: *Exploration in W. Turkistan*, 1905, 1908.

Address for sending:—The Secretary, British School at Athens, 19, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.1, who will gratefully acknowledge any books sent.

#### Victoria and Albert Museum.

A number of important examples of English furniture and woodwork have recently been acquired by gift as well as by purchase. Among the chief gifts is a chair of the time of Charles II., selected by Sir George Donaldson from his museum at Hove. Another important gift was made by Mr. Thomas Sutton of a fine collection of English tea caddies brought together during the past thirty years by the late Mrs. Sutton. The furniture acquired by purchase includes a mahogany chest-of-drawers in the manner of Chippendale, a Charles II. walnut cabinet on stand, a miniature bureau or writing cabinet of the time of Queen Anne, and an Elizabethan armchair.

### ALLIED SOCIETIES.

#### Birmingham Architectural Association.

The third general meeting of the session was held at the Association's rooms, Royal Society of Artists' Buildings, New Street, Birmingham, on Friday, 5th inst., when the President, Mr. H. T. Buckland, F.R.I.B.A., gave his Presidential address. There were 52 members present. In the course of his address Mr. Buckland referred to the attitude of the City Council towards the profession on housing

problems. "It seems to me deplorable," he said, "that a city which has educated a large number of architects at its School of Art, many of them men of recognised ability, should not give recognition to men on their return from the war. This is a time of exceptional difficulties both in the architectural profession and in the building trades. We have offered our services. The necessary work in connection with house-planning and laying out of areas is being done by a Corporation department, and beyond the possibility of entering the few competitions, the architects are receiving no help."

During the war, Mr. Buckland said, the Association formed committees to assist needy members. The effort did not meet with all the support that was expected. When housing schemes were maturing the Association approached the Council through the Housing Committee, but the only encouragement given was the opportunity of competing for plans for the Pineapple Estate.

With regard to the Civic Society, Mr. Buckland said it was formed largely on the suggestion of Councillor George Cadbury, jun., and Mr. George Talbot. It could have been regarded as an advisory committee to help the Council on matters of planning and laying out new areas. He regretted that the City Council had not made the use of that society which it might have done, and which would have been to the city's distinct advantage.

### THE STORMING OF ZEEBRUGGE.

#### An Appeal by the Anglo-Belgian Union.

The storming of Zeebrugge and the blocking of the Canal is perhaps one of the finest deeds in naval history. This action was distinct from the ordinary activities of the Dover Patrol to whose splendid and untiring services monuments are already being erected.

Before an attack of this sort can be launched there must be much careful preparation in closest detail, much anxious thought, but without the noble gallantry of those to whom the task is allotted, no plans, however well laid, can succeed, and when the news was told the whole world was thrilled by the glory of the deed. The result was to render the submarine base useless at a most critical time, and not only relieve us of a terrible danger, but put new heart into the people of Belgium who, cut off from authentic news, were cheered by a deed which no German censorship could conceal.

The Anglo-Belgian Union, desiring to commemorate for all time this heroic deed, decided to promote a competition for a Memorial worthy of this great achievement. Their desire was to erect a Memorial commemorating the glory of the action rather than a monument of mourning for the noble men who gave their lives in carrying it out. This Competition has now been held\* and the first place awarded to a design which in the opinion of the Committee worthily commemorates this sublime action, and an appeal is now being made for funds with which to carry out the work.

The site has been generously presented and there is nothing to prevent the work being started as soon as the money is subscribed.

\* See note on the Exhibition of the Designs, p. 88.



No one with a spark of imagination can fail to have his feelings stirred by the history of the storming of Zeebrugge, and the Committee is confident that notwithstanding the numerous Appeals that have been made for other objects there will be a generous response to an Appeal for the erection on Belgian soil of a Monument which commemorates a glorious and daring British achievement.

## COMPETITIONS.

### Bridgwater Housing Competition.

The Competitions Committee of the Royal Institute of British Architects requests Members and Licentiates to refrain from taking part in the above competition, the conditions not being in conformity with the Institute Regulations for Architectural Competitions. The Committee is in communication with the promoters of the competition with a view to the amendment of the conditions.

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary.*

## THE EXAMINATIONS.

### The Final: Alternative Problems in Design.

#### Instructions to Candidates.

1. The drawings, which should preferably be on uniform sheets of paper of not less than Imperial size, must be sent to the Secretary of the Board of Architectural Education, Royal Institute of British Architects, 9 Conduit Street, W., on or before the dates specified below.

2. Each set of drawings must be signed by the author, AND HIS FULL NAME AND ADDRESS, and the name of the school, if any, in which the drawings have been prepared must be attached thereto.

3. All designs, whether done in a school or not, must be accompanied by a declaration from the Student that the design is his own work and that the drawings have been wholly executed by him. In the preparation of the design the Student may profit by advice.

4. Drawings for subjects (a) are to have the shadows projected at an angle of 45° in line, monochrome, or colour. Drawings in subjects (b) are to be finished as working drawings. Lettering on all drawings must be of a clear, scholarly, and unaffected character.

#### Subject XLIX.

(a) AN ELLIPTICAL GRAND STAIRCASE AND VESTIBULE IN A GENTLEMAN'S HOUSE.—The candidate is to indicate the rooms adjoining the staircase.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale: one plan and two sections.

(b) A FACTORY ON AN ISLAND SITE OUTSIDE THE LONDON AREA.—Building to be 100 feet square and have six floors, the top floor to carry machinery (1 cwt. per sq. foot). The whole to be fireproof.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plan, elevation and sections,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch sectional detail.

#### Subject L.

(a) A TOWN CHURCH TO SEAT 800 PERSONS.—Material, ferro-concrete. Corner site.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plan, section and two elevations,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch detail.

(b) A DAIRY FARM FOR 100 COWS: WITH BAILIFF'S HOUSE.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plan, sections and two elevations.

#### Subject LI.

(a) A MEMORIAL "OPEN ACCESS" LIBRARY ON CORNER SITE.—70 feet square. Rooms: newspaper, reading, magazine, reference library. Small museum, small lecture room. Stock room in basement.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plans, elevations and two sections,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch detail.

(b) A PERMANENT CASTLE FOR A WORKS, WITH SIMULTANEOUS SEATING ACCOMMODATION FOR 600 MEN AND 600 WOMEN. No waiting.

Rooms: rest and smoking rooms. Kitchen and all necessary offices. Lavatory accommodation for kitchen staff. Manager's office.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plans, sections and elevations.

#### Dates for Submission of Designs in 1920.

	Subj. XLIX.	Subj. L.	Subj. LI
United Kingdom	28th Feb	30th April	30th June
Johnsburgh	30th April	30th June	31st Aug.
Melbourne	31st May	31st July	30th Sept.
Sydney	31st May	31st July	30th Sept.
Toronto	31st Mar	31st May	31st July.

## MINUTES. IV.

At the Fourth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 15th December, 1919, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. E. Guy Dawber, *Vice-President*, in the Chair, 24 Fellows (including 8 members of the Council), 23 Associates (including 2 members of the Council), 2 Licentiates, and several visitors—the Minutes of the Meeting held 1st December were taken as read and signed as correct.

Mr. Frederick Chatterton [F.] and Mr. James Guy Warwick [A.], attending for the first time since their election, were formally admitted by the Chairman.

The Hon. Secretary announced that Mr. St. Clair Baddeley had presented to the library a collection of 120 original drawings of the Palaces of Genoa done by the order and executed under the direction of Peter Paul Rubens.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Baddeley for his valuable gift was passed by acclamation.

The Secretary announced that the following candidates had been nominated for election:—

As FELLOWS (27): Ormrod Maxwell Ayton [A., 1903]; Quentin Mangnall Bluhm [A., 1910]; Preston; Walter Hargreaves Bourne [A., 1899]; Saskatoon; Charles Geoffrey Boutecher [A., 1910]; Kedah; Norman Gordon Bridgman [A., 1892]; Paignton; Annesley Harold Browning [A., 1908]; Henry John Chuteau [A., 1910]; Henry Gilbert Gamble [A., 1891]; Lincoln; Thos. Francis Whitshire Grant, M.C. [A., 1910]; William Courtenay Le Maitre [A., 1905]; Edward Brantwood Maule, M.A. Oxon. [A., 1910]; Leslie Thomas Moore, M.C. [A., 1905]; Robert George Muir [A., 1912]; Basil Oliver [A., 1910]; Stanley Churchhill Ramsey [A., 1906]; William Walter Scott-Moncrieff, M.C. [A., 1912]; Alec Smithers [A., 1908]; Henry Spencer Walcott Stone [A., 1904]; Taunton; Charles Hilbert Strange [A., 1891]; Tunbridge Wells; Edwin James Tench [A., 1901]; Norwich; Conrad Birdwood Willocks [A., 1912]; Reading; Frank Reginald Gould Wills [A., 1892]. And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying examination: Arthur James Driver; Vincent Jerome Esch, Calcutta; Edmund Bertram Kirby, O.B.E., Liverpool; Henry Thos. Sandy, Stafford; Stephen Wilkinson, Calcutta.

Mr. Sydney Perks [F.], F.S.A., having read a paper on "LONDON TOWN PLANNING SCHOOLS IN 1666," and shown several lantern illustrations, a discussion ensued, and on the motion of Professor S. D. Adshad [F.], seconded by Sir Banister Fletcher [F.], a vote of thanks was passed to him by acclamation.

Mr. Perks having responded, the proceedings closed and the meeting separated at 9.40.

## AN APPEAL FOR THE BLIND.

What does eyesight mean to an artist? Life! And supposing you who read these lines were suddenly to look up from the drawing in front of you to find that the curtain of physical darkness had suddenly descended across those windows of your mind that mean life to you? Would you not feel the most unutterable despair?

And yet there are thousands of men and women in this country who have all the cravings, all the longings of the artist's soul, who are shut out for ever from the simple things that mean so much to you every day. The man who is suddenly deprived of sight has to be equipped to face a new world, a world in which fingers and ears take the place of eyes, to begin all over again and cultivate to the full those senses which are to take the place of his vision.

Here then is a cause that surely needs no bolstering up with fine phrases or studied eloquence. The National Institute for the Blind is also a great College of Light. It helps a blind man in a thousand ways to equip himself anew, to become a useful and happy citizen: it is by far the biggest producer of embossed literature in the world; it teaches the blind in their own homes: it is responsible for the after-care of the soldiers and sailors blinded in the great war; it pays out large sums of money to the necessitous blind: it is alive to all the needs of the higher education of the blind: it has a Home for little Blind Babies: it is responsible for a hostel for blind women workers—the list might be prolonged if space would allow.

With confidence then we appeal to you, without fear and without shame, for the possession of a privilege must assuredly entail as well the possession of a gratitude which can best be expressed by practical sympathy and co-operation. Will you not, therefore, send a donation, no matter how small, to the Secretary, Metropolitan Branch of the National Institute for the Blind, 224-6-8, Great Portland Street, London, W.1?

ARTHUR PEARSON,

4 Dec. 1919.

*President & Hon. Treasurer*

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Appointments.

Mr. Percival Monckton [F.] has been appointed Surveyor to the Commission of Lieutenancy for the City of London.

Mr. W. S. Purchon, M.A. [A.], who is a member of the Board of Architectural Education and has been Lecturer in the Department of Architecture at Sheffield University for the past ten years, has been appointed Lecturer in Architecture and Civic Design at the Technical College, Cardiff.

Mr. H. D. Charles-Wood [F.] and Mr. Herbert Buckland [F.] have been appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. at the Royal Sanitary Institute's Congress at Birmingham, July 19th-24th, 1920.

## Professional Notice.

A partnership has been entered into between Mr. Albert Schofield, of Southport, and Mr. F. Morrell Maddox [A.], of Stoke-on-Trent. The practice will be carried on under the style of Messrs. Schofield & Maddox, Architects, Queen's Chamber, Lord Street, Southport.

## Post Wanted.

draughtsman.—Young man recently demobilised is anxious to obtain post with Architect or Engineer, with a view to training as Draughtsman. No previous experience, but natural aptitude for drawing. Excellent Army and previous business record.—Address Secretary R.I.B.A.

## NOTICES.

## Business Meeting, 5th January, 1920

The FIFTH GENERAL MEETING (Business) of the Session 1919-20 will be held Monday, 5th January, 1920, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held 15th December, 1919; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To proceed with the election of the following candidates for Fellowship:—

AS FELLOWS (27).

AYRTON: ORMELO MAXWELL [A. 1903], 3 Vindham Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.; 9 Church Row, Hampstead.  
 BLUM: QUENTIN MANGNALL [A. 1910], Victoria Chambers, Fishergate, Preston; and Whitcote, Devonshire Road, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, Lancs.  
 BOUSE: WALLER HARGREAVES [A. 1899], 303 Canada Buildings, Saskatoon, Canada.  
 BOUCHER: CHARLES GEOFFREY [A. 1910], Alor Star, Kedah, Malay Peninsula.  
 BRIDGMAN: NORMAN GEORGE [A. 1892], 1 Palace Avenue, and "Carlyon," Cadwell Road, Paulton.  
 BROWNE: ANNESLEY HAROLD [A. 1908], 69 Chancery Lane, E.C.; and The White House, Milford, Surrey.  
 CHITWOOD: HENRY JOHN [A. 1910], 5 Bedford Row, W.C.1, and Brook House, Bishops Stortford.  
 GAMBLE: HENRY GILBERT [A. 1891], Bank Street Chambers, Lincoln; and "Budleigh," The Grove, Lincoln.  
 GRANT: THOS. FRANCIS WILTSHIRE, M.C. [A. 1910], 11 Buckingham Street, W.C.2; and 148 High Street, Kensington.  
 LE MAITRE: WILLIAM COURTENAY [A. 1905], 63 Finsbury Pavement, E.C.; and 58 Palace Court, W.  
 MAFFE: EDWARD BRANTWOOD, M.A. Oxon. [A. 1910], 3 Raymond Buildings, W.C.1, and 139 Church Street, Chelsea, S.W.3.  
 MOORE: LESLIE THOMAS, M.C. [A. 1905], 3 Raymond Buildings, W.C.1; and 3 Squires Mount, Hampstead.  
 MUIR: ROBERT GEORGE [A. 1912], Gerrards Cross, Bucks; and 15 Elers Road, Ealing, W.13.  
 OLIVER: BASIL [A. 1910], 7 Southampton Street, Bloomsbury, W.C.1; and 148 Kensington High Street, W.8.  
 RAMSEY: STANLEY CHURCHILL [A. 1906], 46 Great Russell Street, W.C.; and "Holmsdale," Kempton, Surrey.  
 SCOTT-MONCRIEFF: WILLIAM WALTER, M.C. [A. 1912], 11 Gray's Inn Place, and 13 Hart Street, W.C.1.  
 SMITHERS: ALEC [A. 1908], Skinners' Hall, 9 Dowgate Hill, E.C.; and the Manor, Bishops Stortford, Herts.  
 STONE: HENRY SPENCER WACOPE [A. 1904], 54 North Street, and Kingswood, Staplegrave, Taunton.  
 STRANGE: CHARLES HUBBERT [A. 1891], 20 Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.  
 TENCH: EDWIN JAMES [A. 1901], 15 Court Chambers, The Walk, Norwich; and Riverside Road, Norwich.  
 WILCOCKS: CONRAD BIRDWOOD [A. 1912], 11 Friar Street; and Willstead, Caversham Heights, Reading.  
 WILES: FRANK REGINALD GOULD [A. 1892], 34 Finsbury Pavement, E.C.2; and 83 Badminton Road, S.W.12.  
 And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying examination:—  
 DRIVER: ARTHUR JAMES, Surveyor's Office, Grocers' Hall, Princes Street, E.C.2; and 8 Trafalgar Square, S.W.3.  
 ESCH: VINCENT JEROME, Architect-in-Charge, Victoria Memorial, Calcutta.  
 KIRBY: EDWARD BERTRAM, O.B.E., 5 Cook Street, Liverpool; and Ovoidale, Oxtun, Birkenhead.  
 SANDY: HENRY THOS., 22 Greengate, Stafford; 71 Temple Row, Birmingham; 9 Albert Square, Manchester.  
 WILKINSON: STEPHEN, Standard Buildings, Dalhousie Square, Calcutta; and Lingdale, Bournemouth.



GOURLAY'S HOUSE. OLD BANK CLOSE, EDINBURGH. Demolished 1835

## OLD EDINBURGH AND SOME OF ITS BUILDINGS.

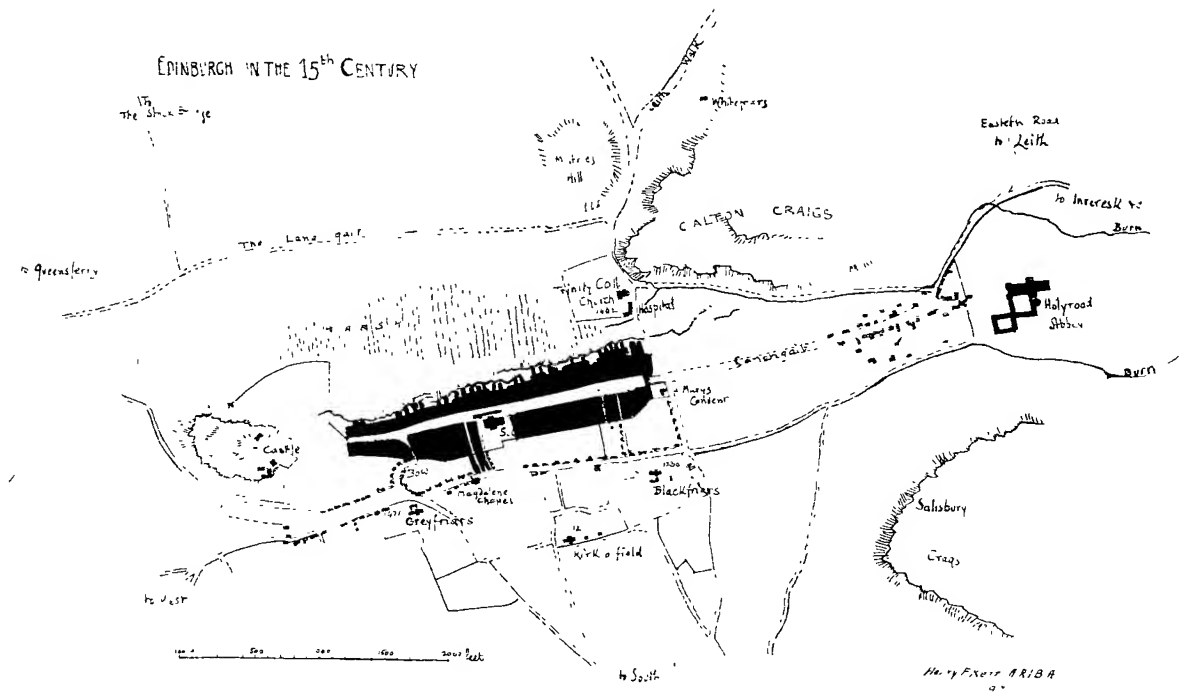
By HENRY F. KERR, F.S.A. Scot. [A.].

Read before the Edinburgh Architectural Association, 27th November, 1919.

**E**DINBURGH is unique in many of its characteristics. One of the most remarkable is the story of the hills and valleys upon which it stands. Were these not formed by two opposing forces of Nature, Heat and Cold? The volcanic fires raised the hills; the grinding of the ice floes hollowed out the valleys. Arthur's Seat, Calton Crags, and the Castle Rock are greater and lesser lava uplifts of the great volcanic mountain that covered many square miles of country, and of which the Pentland Hills were outer spurs. This great mountain the icefields have swept away, except where the harder rocks have withstood the passage of the ice. Thus has been produced that western crag and eastern tail formation of hill—the western crag of hard rock protecting the softer eastern portion from being carried seawards by the advancing avalanche.

Our immediate concern is, however, with the characteristics of the city itself. As there were time periods in the making of its site, so there were periods—three great periods—in the development of the town. These were the Military, the Ecclesiastical, and what may be called the Burghal Periods. These are arbitrary divisions, and not to be fixed by certain dates. The Military Period arose from the necessity of defence, first in using the "Castle Rock" as the site of a hill fort, to be resorted to in times of danger. Subsequently a strong tower was erected there, and a village of some sort grew on the lower (western) surface of the rock. When the military power became stronger, and the need of defence greater, the village was removed from the rock, and became the nucleus of a town on the site of "Castle Hill," about a bow-shot distance east of the castle. The castle and the great tower, built by David II., dominated the site of old Edinburgh for centuries. David's Tower was erected in 1367-77, and was destroyed in the siege of the castle by Sir Wm. Drury in 1572. The position of this tower has quite recently been discovered. The sixteenth-century palace buildings at the south-east corner of the castle almost adjoined this tower, the under walls of which were enclosed by the erection of the Half Moon Battery after 1573. Indeed, in the lower storey of the Half Moon Battery there is the fragment of the "Flodden Wall" still projecting from the old tower at its south-east angle. The position of this wall is also identified by the well-known drawing of the siege of the castle in 1572. Down from the castle the High Street stretches in dignified breadth to the Netherbow Port, then eastwards the road is prolonged by the Canongate through the ecclesiastical township in the precincts of Holyrood Abbey.

A map of Edinburgh in the fifteenth century indicates the extent of the city as contained within the early stone wall. It started from the Wellhouse Tower, on the north of the castle (at the base of the rock), and skirted the existing marsh (the future North Loch). Then it abruptly turned up the castle bank southwards to what is now the east end of the "Esplanade": then across Castle Hill, and turning in a south-easterly line crossed the West Bow, at the West Bow Port. From this point it took an easterly direction, although not a quite straight course, and at length turned northwards to the Netherbow Port, where Edinburgh of that date ended.



As for the defence of the northern portion of the city, it is presumed that the wall proceeded from the Netherbow Port some distance northwards, and that the craggy steepness of the north-eastern end of the hill, and the marsh on the north margin, reaching to the early wall (indicated above) served sufficiently for defence. Round about the city outwith the walls were the sites of the ecclesiastic foundations. The Greyfriars Monastery was at the junction of the Grassmarket and Candlemaker Row. The Kirk o' Field (S. Mary's in the Field) was on the top of the slope rising from the Cowgate. The Blackfriars Monastery adjoined it, at the east end of the Cowgate. Trinity College Church, on the north of the town, was almost overhung by the Calton Craigs.

Edinburgh is a conspicuous instance of the not uncommon arrangement of mediæval towns, having at one end the castle, the sign of military protection and domination: at the other end the great abbey, a later protecting and dominating force; and between these the burgh with its church, and Tolbooth, and the people's homes. As someone has said, the people were thus placed between the upper and the nether mill stones, and although history records the tyranny of military and ecclesiastic rule, it also records the overthrow of both by the burghers. The "Flodden Wall," so-called because it was hastily formed after the panic of that day, is easily traced, as in great part it used the boundaries of the monastic possessions, together with other existing walls, which were partly renewed and partly strengthened. It enclosed the Grassmarket on the west, went southwards up the vennel, then crossed eastwards along the back of the later Heriot's Hospital, bounded the grounds of the Greyfriars to

Greyfriars or Bristo Port, then eastwards and round the Blackfriars Yards, and enclosed the Cowgate at the east, and thence to the Netherbow Port.

Of the ecclesiastical development a great deal might be recalled. Of the Friaries, Black, Grey, and White, only tradition and some historical items remain. But of the three larger churches of the city we have some stones standing. There is of the great abbey of Holyrood only a remnant of the nave and part of the west front left. From recent excavations in the palace garden the complete plan of the church is laid bare; but no trace of the conventual buildings has been discovered. Both the interior and exterior of the remains of the chapel are full of interest and charm, and are justly celebrated for excellence of design and skill in execution. St. Giles, the parish church, dates from the ninth century, but what can be seen is not earlier than the fourteenth century, and most of it fifteenth century; the famous Crown being of seventeenth-century date. The interior of the church is rendered interesting as a historical patchwork. It was vaulted in 1380. After mid-fifteenth century a succession of chapels were added, giving breadth to the plan and beauty to the interior. In the fourteenth century the Moray Aisle, at the south side of the nave, was formed. In the fifteenth century the Albany Aisle, opposite the Moray Aisle; and also the Preston Aisle, on the south side of the choir. In the sixteenth century the small Chapman Aisle, off the Preston Aisle; and the Lauder Aisle, to the south of the Moray Aisle, were added. The vaulting of the church was heightened in the fifteenth century, and the choir and transepts were lengthened during this later busy church-building period.

In the fifteenth century there was erected part of a church whose history and design are too little known. This is Trinity College Church. Its history is pathetic. It was the latest to be built, it was founded under august circumstances, and endowed munificently by Mary of Gueldres, the widow of King James II., in 1462. It was pulled down in 1849 to provide a siding for railway trucks. The choir with its aisles, the central tower and transepts, and a sacristy were completed. It was a fully vaulted church and an excellent example of fifteenth-century design. Its importance may be gauged by comparing a bay of Holyrood, St. Giles, and Trinity College. Holyrood is, of course, an easy first both in design and scale, but the scale of St. Giles is inferior to that of Trinity College. In height alone Holyrood is 10 feet more than Trinity College, and Trinity College, in turn, 10 feet more than St. Giles (with its heightened vault). There is in the work at Trinity College Church, both in exterior and interior, a delightful freedom and vigour of design. From some scanty plans and the re-erected fragment of the choir and apse, it has been possible to recall the appearance of this fine church. The apse shows great power as well as subtlety of design, and in its vault we have the completion of a most impressive interior. Some old photographs, sometimes with the stones numbered for re-erection, give some idea of the solidity of construction and characteristic design, the tracery of the south transept window and the angle buttresses. Again, the bold flying buttresses carrying the thrust of the choir vaulting over the aisle roofs. When in process of time it was elected to rebuild the church, it was found that not one-third of the old stones were available for the work, so only a poor fragment of the noble church is now incorporated with the modern church of that name in Jeffrey Street. The furnishing of the church was as rich as its endowment, and there is preserved in the State Apartments of Holyrood Palace the beautiful painted altar piece. Great was the aim, generous was the gift, but all was laid waste by blundering haste, and to-day Edinburgh is left so much the poorer.

In the third division of our subject—the Burghal development—we enter a somewhat varied atmosphere, an atmosphere that is charged with strong reminiscences of our immediate progenitors, that gives a feeling of familiar consciousness to our survey. Let us hope it cultivates a no less powerful spirit of reverence for all that is good and is gone. An early print by Holler shows the portion of the town from St. Giles to the Canongate Tolbooth, and shows at a glance the distinctive grouping of the town to the west of the Netherbow Port, and of the ecclesiastical township of the Canongate. Within the city walls the houses were built on narrow closes, conserving every foot of space, and piling storey

on storey ; in the Canongate, although the front of the street was gradually built upon, behind were the houses of many courtiers surrounded by large gardens. If we pursue our way from the site of Holler's view, on the south of the city, we will traverse the ancient road—now called the Pleasance—and at the foot of the hill pass the Cowgate Port on our left. From thence we would mount St. Mary's Wynd to the Netherbow Port. This was the eastern extremity of the city which was here guarded by this great gateway. It was the chief entrance for the city from the south (by St. Mary's Wynd), from the east (by the Canongate), from Leith (by Leith Wynd). This gateway with its portcullis and tower and spire, its circular angle towers, reminiscent of the old palace at Holyrood, and its turnpike stairs, was an impressive and practical defence to the city. On passing westwards through its archway we enter the city of Edinburgh. The locality of the Netherbow was unique, and viewed from 100 yards up the street the prospect was quaint and charming. The late Mr. Bruce Home in a view of this quarter—the Nether Bow—shows us on the left Ancrum House, Moubray House, Knox's House and Balmerino House ; the vista closed by the old gateway. With the exception of the Knox and Moubray houses all are now gone. The Port itself was pulled down in 1764, and so far as we know it was the first municipal "Improvement."

The old Port was not in a state of decay ; but there seems to have been some sort of epidemic for the removal of city gates at that time. London had removed its gates in 1760, and the magistrates of Edinburgh expressed themselves as apprehensive of the fortified or fortifiable building being seized by rebellious persons to the danger of the peaceful citizens. We can afford now to look back upon this time, and in calmness reflect on what has been lost. Even had it been proved to have been an obstruction to traffic—which it certainly was not, for what traffic is there or was there?—there was a remedy. The gateway could have remained to mark the end of the city, and the abutting houses slightly recessed or arcaded so as to allow of a surplus of traffic to pass on either side. Thus to-day this worthy example of Burghal defence might have stood to add its quota to the impressive old world town. Knox's and Moubray's Houses in the immediate vicinity are object lessons in the retention of these old buildings, and thus saving the buildings of the old city from thoughtless demolition.

It is not only on the sides of the main streets that the good old houses are found, sometimes down the closes excellent examples are—or more accurately were—to be met with. For example, the Earl of Selkirk's house in Hyndford Close, removed some years ago for a clergy house. This was a unique building, with a tower supported on arches. It was one of our city treasures which ought not to have been allowed to disappear. But, as so frequently happens, no one who cares about such things knew the danger it was in until the evil was done.

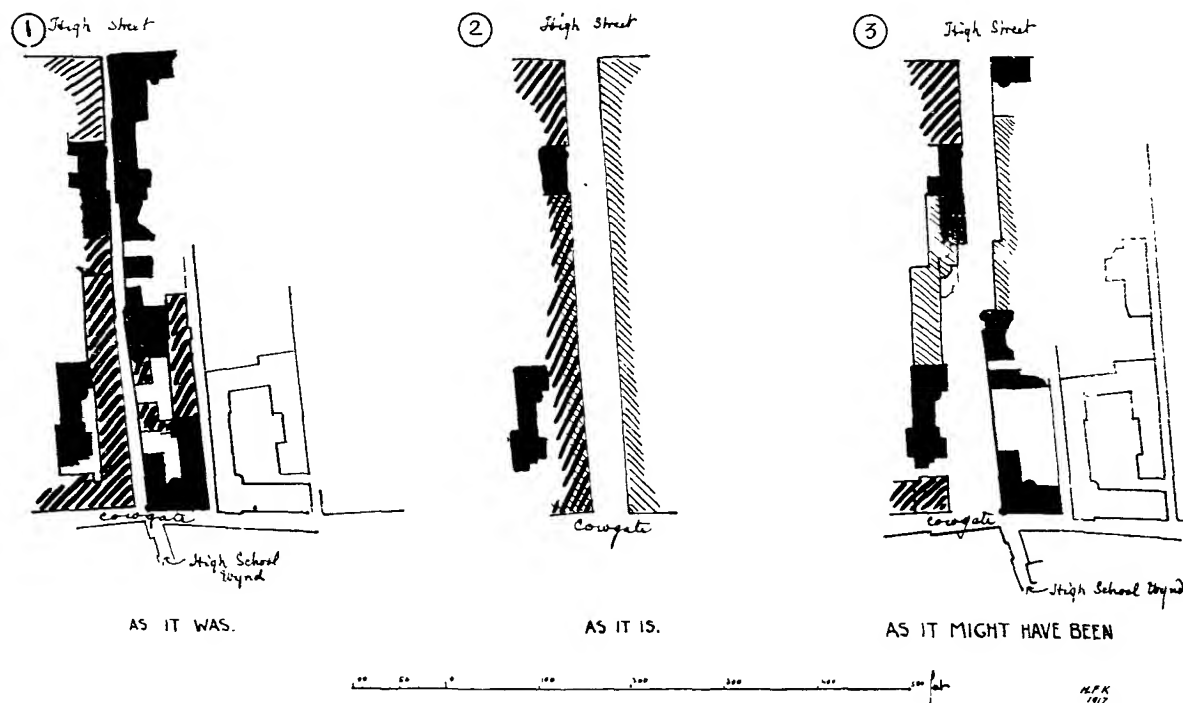
A little further up the street was Blackfriars Wynd, a wynd full of ecclesiastical residences, and almost every house of some distinction. There was at the head of the wynd Clerk of Penicuik's house, formerly Lord Home's. A little down the left side was a doorway, with the richest lintel in the city, also Lauderdale House, and another with a projecting staircase, and so on. On the right-hand side the Regent Morton's House is passed, which is still with us, but shorn of its timber excrescences. Below it a stone land with projecting timber galleries, and at the bottom the Earl of Orkney's house stood. Then adjoining the Cowgate and opposite the Orkney House was the most famous of all, Cardinal Beaton's house.

For some inexplicable reason it was decided to make a thoroughfare for traffic between the Cowgate and the High Street. The only mode of doing so seemed to the wisdom of that day to make a 40 foot street on the line of the old wynd. This straight line of increased width necessitated the sacrifice of old buildings on one side of the wynd, so unfortunately it was decided to clear the east side away—the side that contained the best houses, amongst others the Cardinal's. As ill-luck would have it, by some error in levelling perhaps, it was found that as the new road did not suit the floors of the old houses—or the floors of the old houses did not suit the fall of the street—the houses on the other side were removed also ! Only the Morton House escaped. One would have thought that as the Beaton House

was the most valuable, some plan would have been adopted to save it. With its gardens it was one of the most precious buildings of old time in the city, full of years, full of quaintness, full of history ; but the straight street, of no moment and of no use, has ruthlessly swept it away along with its sympathetic companions.

I venture to draw attention to a solution that a little kindly consideration has produced, if a wider street is necessary, either for traffic or for sanitary reasons. On the left is shown the plan of the wynd as it was : in the centre the plan as it is : and to the right the plan as it might have been. In such a scheme some sacrifice is required, but by this we had been able to save many of the old buildings and provide a more picturesque thoroughfare in the process. Near the Cowgate, opposite Cardinal Beaton's house, two good houses in the adjoining close have been incorporated with the west side of the new street. The real error was in the idea of widening the wynd. Surely this, the most wonderful

BLACKFRIARS' WYND : EDINBURGH



thoroughfare in the old town, after the West Bow, might have gone unscathed even as a museum for our descendants : and if a street for traffic were essential (which it is not) it might have been cut through where less interesting buildings would have been disturbed. I can quite imagine some sanitary expert sagely muttering " Slums ! " No doubt from one point of view our friend is right : but he is perchance taking a one-sided view of the question.

Some people seem to think that any old building if unoccupied must be ruinous : it need not be so. Some people seem to think that if old buildings are tenanted they must be slums : it need not be so. Of course it often happens—it perhaps usually is true—that our old buildings are slums. And all of us can agree in this that slums they must not remain. There is no reason why they should continue to be slums. Why then is this so ? It is not the fault of the buildings : they are strong, in most cases, and ready for years of service : but they have been overreached by the rapid advance of sanitation on the one hand, and on the other by their occupation by a lower class of tenants than they were designed



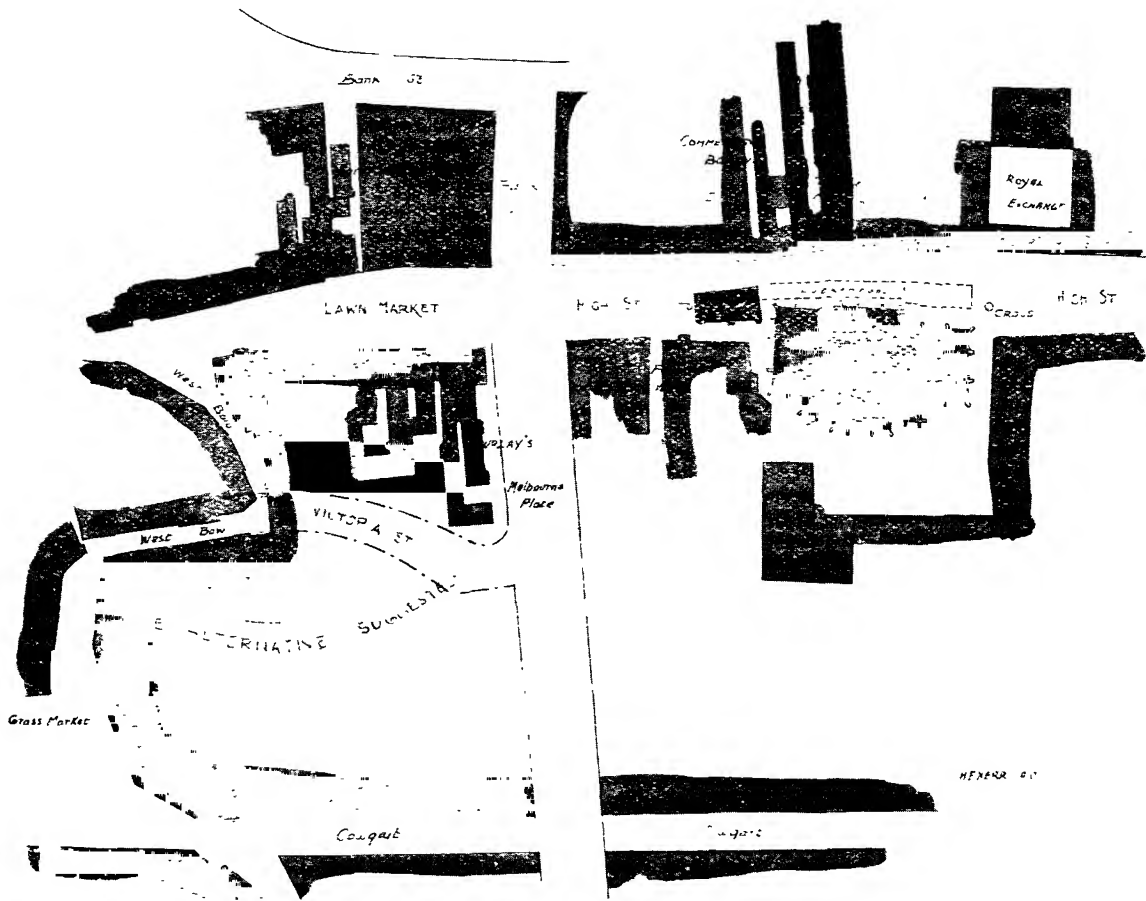
for. Put the people of one of these slum properties in a palace, and the palace would be a slum in a few months. This truth is also seen by reversing the action. Place well-bred residents in what is now a slum house, and it would gradually but surely become a sanitary dwelling. It is the tenants, and not the houses that are to blame. Raise the moral tone of the people, and the slum question is solved. Our Town Council some time ago made an effort in this direction. They purchased Milne's Court, a most interesting tenement of 1690 date. The houses were remodelled, but the exterior remained to tell its history in its own way. It is understood that there is no great profit to show on the transaction as an investment, because the cost of remodelling was serious; but even had there been a loss the city was still the eventual gainer by having saved the old building from demolition, and thus retained the old world feeling of the locality. But note the crucial point: notwithstanding the improvement in the sanitary condition of the houses, the mental morale of the tenants seems in no way improved. We cannot say like Lord Fisher "Sack the lot!" but must quietly nerve ourselves to the question of the betterment of the people.

Let us proceed up the High Street. The quaint panelled timber front of Allan Ramsay's shop, that was a joy for years, has been displaced by the new buildings of the North Bridge; we scarcely realised that this "auld farrant" (old fashioned) tenement was doomed, until we saw it "was not." On the opposite side of the street and a little west is the Tron Church. In 1788 one of the early "improvements" of the city fathers was initiated in the construction of Hunter Square. There were two old "lands" or tenements which stood one block away from the west side of the church. By examining a plan of this spot we can see that if the square had been contracted three feet, these two great and impressive buildings might have been saved. At the time this happened the loss of even so important buildings as the Black Turnpike and the Clam-shell Turnpike was a comparatively small matter. But this has been going on year after year; one by one, or two by two, the old houses have disappeared. So much so that whereas in 1788 the number of old buildings greatly predominated over new buildings, in 1919 the reverse is the case. In 1788 there were in the Historic Mile, from the Castle to Holyrood, 200 closes and Wynds; to-day not one of these exists, if we except the White Horse Close, which is really a court. Again, in 1788 there were fully 2,000 tenements of houses in this street; to-day there are less than 100, and of houses built before the eighteenth century not thirty. So now when an old "land" is threatened with demolition, it means the prospective destruction of a large fractional part of the old town.

Above the Tron Church the fire of 1824 cleared out the majority of the houses to Parliament Square. But on the opposite, or north side of the High Street there are some more than respectable links with the past. It must be borne in mind when dealing with old Edinburgh, it is not only the properties connected with the history of the city or the country that must be saved, nor, in addition to these, only some of architectural merit: but over and above these there are others—mostly of late date—which, without history or outstanding merit, are still possessed of that undefinable, subtle flavour of past times that is not only valuable in the general artistic scheme, but absolutely required if any one is to understand the history of the making of the city. They may be sometimes plain, even sometimes unlovely, yet they are so distinctly "unmodern" as to be both architecturally and historically indispensable as a part of the old city.

Early in the nineteenth century, when Bank Street, as a continuation of the Earthen Mound, had been made, a new street that has proved a great improvement so far as traffic is concerned was projected. This was the formation of George IV. Bridge as a continuation of Bank Street, connecting the north of the city with the south across the old town. But it was unfortunate that a little more consideration was not given to its effect upon the buildings and appearance of the old town which it cut in two. This is the usual fault of most "improvements": nothing is considered except the immediate issue. On the western side of Old Bank Close there stood Gourlay's House, wonderful, unique, and one of the most characteristic old houses of the city. Its quaint gables, its dormers,

corbellings, turrets, and angle end, are full of interest. The bold and continuous fenestration of the first floor is as effective as it is original. In Sommervill's drawing the south (left hand) gable looks too flat in its pitch for Scottish work, but otherwise the sketch seems faithful. Besides its architectural merit this house has historical claims. Gourlay was a man of considerable wealth and importance and political influence. And consequently we can understand how it happened that this building was occasionally used as a quasi-State prison. Within its massive doors were confined some notable



WEST BOW, GOURLAY'S HOUSE, ADVOCATES' CLOSE, AND TOLBOOTH.

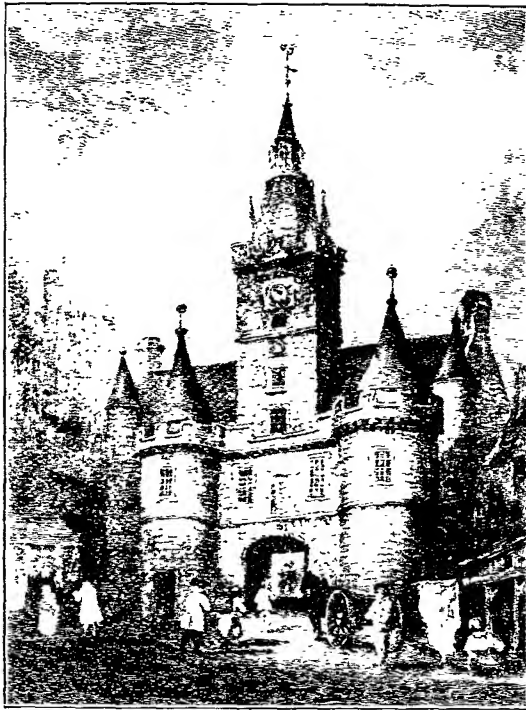
people: Kirkcaldy of Grange, the defender of the Castle; Maitland of Lethington, the secretary of Queen Mary, Lord Home, Regent Morton, and the Marquis of Huntley among others. If one were to examine a plan of the locality, it would be plain that Gourlay's house in no way could have encroached on Melbourne Place. Indeed, if it had been left it would have been somewhat recessed from the general "building line," and would have formed a picture of surpassing quaintness.

Few intelligent visitors there are to Edinburgh who do not ask for Advocates' Close. It was just opposite to St. Giles's Church. Of all the many quaint closes of the town it was the most picturesque. As all closes were, it was narrow, and encroaching on its narrowness there were outshots, and in the upper storeys further projections of timber work, so that one would think the houses on opposite sides of the close would almost meet. Indeed, there is tradition that *tête-à-tête* conversations were held across its span. The Advocates' Close had also its historical side too full for mention here, but all is now tradition, and only a sorry ruin the spot looks now, with all the back buildings gone and some

warehouses lining one side of the steep way. No doubt, closes in their narrowness and consequent darkness are not emblems of sanitary science, and are bound to be amended sooner or later. But the clearance here has been less wise than thorough. This close stood with one or two others in a special class. Would that it, at least, had been kept in its entirety as an object-lesson of history of the way our forefathers lodged; even though the houses were left unoccupied, it would form a marvellous tale of the past.

Across the street from Advocates' Close is St. Giles's Church, and at the north-east angle stood till 1817 the old Edinburgh Tolbooth—the Heart of Midlothian of Scott's novel. A plan of the city shows the position of the Tolbooth on the street, and the street is narrowed by this position. But this is the recognised place for a Tolbooth of a Burgh in the centre of the High Street. Papers referring to the removal of the building always bring up the narrowness of the thoroughfare. It is a question if this narrowing at the Town House was not for strategic reasons. However that may be, one peculiarity of the High Street of Edinburgh was that it never was, and never could be, a thoroughfare. No traffic comes to it or from it, except to or from itself. Throughgoing traffic naturally declines to climb up and climb down again, and therefore always takes the lower roads round the old town. The idea of considering any but local traffic is absurd. The local traffic there even to-day is a negligible quantity. At the worst, the removal of the 7 feet timber projections from the front of the houses, as has since been done, would have served every practical necessity. And the last argument of all is that our treasured possessions sometimes cause us some concern: but that is not a sufficient reason for throwing them away. Now, in order that you may be able to appreciate what the old building was, I show a drawing founded on a careful study of many old prints and sketches. Its history can be given in a few words, and my reading of its history differs somewhat from that usually told. It was in 1386 that Robert II. gave to the Burgh the plot of ground upon which the Tolbooth stood. By the look of it, it is of two dates, the eastern block—of somewhat ecclesiastic style of the fifteenth century, and the western block of late sixteenth or early seventeenth century. Where is the Tolbooth of 1386, or immediately subsequent? Now I hold that it is highly probable that upon the site in 1386 there was a building, or failing that the Tolbooth was built immediately after possession of the site. Then nearly a century later the Bellhouse was added to the east. Ere long, we read that the Tolbooth wanted repairs. One would think that a strong building of a century and a half could scarcely be in such a sorry state: hence the suggestion of an old building standing on the site in 1386. In 1571 so dangerous was its state that "the tour was taen doon" (the tower was taken down). If it were built in 1386 it was then two centuries old, but it was probably much older. Late in the sixteenth or early in the seventeenth, the new western block was erected, and it is these two blocks which composed the Tolbooth that was demolished in 1817. One of the puzzles of the old prints was the existence of two large arched windows on the north front. This riddle is solved if we accept the arcaded ground storey of the restoration, which fits in exactly with Sime's drawing. Arcading was a very common feature of building of that date: opposite and a little farther east there existed at one time a five-arched ground storey, at Warriston Close; Gladstone's land in the Lawnmarket has two arches on its ground floor front, and further instances were to be seen in some of the tenements of the West Bow.

Thus and thus the losses of Edinburgh were multiplied, and thus the old buildings disappeared one by one from the streets and closes of the old city. O for a wider vision, so that we may be led to preserve the spirit and atmosphere of the old town, and act before it is too late! Just above Advocates' Close is Byre's Close, and at the foot of it there still remains a high tenement inhabited at one time by the Commandator Bothwell (who married Queen Mary and Bothwell). It is strong in its masonry, but the roof of the great semi-octagonal bay to the north is in a terrible state of disrepair. How are we to save such beautiful and historical remnants? Improvements must come, but may wisdom come with them. Late in the sixteenth century there was a revolt against the narrow close construction, and the earliest instance we have to show is the double court at Riddles Court in the Lawnmarket,



THE NETHERBOW PORT, FROM THE EAST. Demolished 1764



NISBET OF DIRLETON'S HOUSE, CANONGATE



CANONGATE, TOLBOOTH



ADVOCATE'S CLOSE IN 1852

including Bailie Macmorran's house with its panelling and ceilings. A century later (1690) on the other side of the street a large and more airy conception was contrived in Milne's Court (part of which has recently been remodelled). In 1722 a still larger scheme was projected in James's Court : and then there came on in close succession Brown Square, Argyll Square, within the city walls, and outside of their confines Alison Square and George Square, which is in area almost equal to St. Andrew Square. Before George Square was built the scheme of Craig had been designed for building on the high ground on the north side of the Nor Loch, where Princes and George Streets now are : and the North Bridge was opened. Owing to the developments that occurred in the centre of the old town some losses of fine old houses must have occurred. But, fortunately, in their place there were erected houses of decided merit, as, for example, at Riddles Court, Milne's Court, and so on. But in the eighteenth and nineteenth century "Improvements" the losses have not such counter balancing gains. In the post-Reformation destruction and decay of our churches, serious losses have occurred with not one compensating gain. The demolition of the Netherbow Port, Selkirk's house, and the series of ecclesiastical residences of Blackfriars' Wynd and Strichen's Close, are solid black losses. The two grim ancient tenements (the Black and the Clamshell Turnpikes) have only the uninteresting classic of Hunter Square to show us in their place. And instead of the curious and genuinely Scottish features of Gourlay's house we have only the tame lineaments of Melbourne Place. Of Advocates' Close only ruins are left, and of the Old Tolbooth not a stone.

And now we come to the Castle Hill, and the West Bow, where perhaps the gravest destructions of all have to be acknowledged. These losses are not only in stone and lime, in timber quaintnesses and plaster decorations, but losses of genuine pecuniary assets to the citizens. The loss to History and Art is great ; so is the actual and prospective loss in money revenue. New Edinburgh with all its beauties calls many people from far to visit it. But where New Edinburgh attracts its thousands, Old Edinburgh attracts its tens of thousands, to spend their days and dollars in our streets. A century ago, even fifty years ago, Old Edinburgh might have been saved, and it would have vied with any old-time city in Europe. But to-day even in the restricted district of the Historic Mile (between the Castle and Holyrood), there is only a fragment of the old remaining. Are we to stand idle and see this fragment disappear ? Are we to let these derelict tenements remain as slums ? Alas ! that is what our fathers did : and we are not entirely free from blame. We have been too long asleep regarding this matter. Let us awake to the danger and bestir ourselves to achieve the saving of what remains. Let us clear the shame of slumdom from its old "lands," and make them the wholesome dwellings of happy people.

We have only time to mention some losses on the Castle Hill. Sommerville's Land was one of our thoroughly characteristic Scottish timber houses ; it was taken down for the erection of the Moncrieff Hall. It adjoined Milne's Court, and each of these formed a charming contrast to the other ; Milne's Court solid, regular, long and high : Sommerville's Land comparatively narrow, and bristling with irregularities and overhanging gables. Immediately west of Sommerville's Land was the Guise group of historic houses, so-called because the most historic of them was the richly-adorned palace of Queen Mary of Guise. The group included the Laos Deo House, and Hope House and other good examples of Edinburgh building. On the other side of the street many houses of well-known families were cleared away. But all these, and more which we cannot even mention now, were as nothing compared with the loss of the West Bow. Before maps and views were thought of, before tradition lisped its story, back in the days of primitive man, when he built on the rock a refuge from his enemies, the line of the West Bow was trodden by his feet. After these earliest days it became the horse track of mediæval times, and later the State Entry to the city in its ancient prime. Fortunately for us, Thomas Hamilton (the designer of the Royal High School, amongst other notable works), made careful drawings of both sides of the West Bow, as it was before demolition. Mounting up the steep hill we see on our left as we leave the Grassmarket, the houses belonging to the Knights Templars, a few of which still remain. At the first turn, and facing down to the Grassmarket, is the house of Lord Provost Stewart

a staunch supporter of the Pretender in 1745. Later the house was the birthplace of Donaldson, the bookseller who founded Donaldson's Hospital. Progressing eastwards we note some quaint houses, and then come to the bend at which the West Bow Port was. This port was the most ancient gateway to the city, and it was within this line that the city grew, and only in later years were houses erected south of this Port. Above this gateway—as we climb northwards—we see the old Assembly Rooms with their projecting gallery. Here the youth and beauty of the city danced and flirted. Next door is the house of Lord Ruthven, who rose from a sick bed to stab Rizzio in Holyrood Palace. Farther up there are other lands which are none the worse of having scant records of history. The head of the Bow was picturesque in the extreme. Of the west side it was difficult to obtain a view owing to the close presence of the ugly Weigh-house. But with a little imagination we can conceive the effect of the towering tenements, with high gables and lofty chimney stacks. All these were swept away in the construction of the Assembly Hall, Johnstone Terrace, and St. John's Free Church. The East Bow Head is the more famous of the two. The quaint timber block and the massive stone blocks adjoining are, with their history, only a memory. There was no senile decay about these tenements, but to satisfy some modern idea they were removed.

Descending the steep thoroughfare and looking upon the east side we have, a few blocks down, a tenement with a square-headed pend which led to a dark court where the notorious Major Weir lived his dark life. Again we arrive at the place of the Port, just a plain pointed archway with a portecullis (according to Gordon of Rothiemay's map). Beyond the Port was the Clockmaker's Land with Romieu's strange astrological sign between two of the upper windows. Going now westwards we pass some curious looking buildings, doubtless with private histories as interesting as their appearance, but these details are unknown. We can as we go discern some instances of ground floor stone arcading, in groups of two and three arches. The well-known Mahogany Land is conspicuous in the centre of this stretch, with its gable above and timber gallery below. At the corner is a timber-fronted house, of which we see also the other side as we turn and descend to the Grassmarket. I think it may be fairly identified as the house of the Napiers of Wrichtshouses. The last few houses are still with us.

We cannot linger here as we would like amongst the galaxy of wondrous houses on this wondrous thoroughfare; but ere we leave this old-world street—steep, unique, antique—we cannot but wonder how it was doomed, as of all others the most charming relic of the past. Advocates' Close, Blackfriars' Wynd, the Netherbow Port, and the Tolbooth, were grievous wounds, but the senseless destruction of the West Bow was the greatest crime of all. There was in those days a craze for new thoroughfares, and one (an absolutely unnecessary one as the future has shown) was from the Grassmarket to the High Street. It must be admitted that the West Bow was of no use as a traffic thoroughfare. So at length (for it was not done in a hurry) Victoria Street was formed. A little thought, a little consideration would have shown the projectors that if in place of swinging the street in a curve to the north, they had swung it to the south, only two old tenements of the old street would have been sacrificed, in place of the whole Bow being destroyed. It is to be feared that the projectors did not care! Better still, if the new street had started from the Grassmarket at Heriot Bridge, and swung up the hill behind some old houses there, and passed the north end of Greyfriars' Churchyard, crossed the Candlemaker Row by a bridge, and then debouched on George IV. Bridge, it would have had a good gradient for a traffic street, would have had equal fening value to Victoria Street, and would have left the West Bow quite untouched.

O rare West Bow! The quaintest of the quaint, so consistent in its inconsistencies, so full of corners and surprises: with its solid cliff-like lands, its frail timber galleries, its towering chimneys and gables, and curiously perched dormers. If it had been left as an historic and artistic treasure what pride the citizens would have in its possession, and what a rare wonder for the stranger who enters our gates. Shade of Madame Roland forgive the parody. "O! Improvement, what crimes have been committed in thy name!"

In the last few minutes at our disposal we can only lightly touch upon the Grassmarket, the Cowgate and the Canongate. Not far from the foot of the West Bow is a narrow old house with noteworthy characteristics. The adjoining tenement is condemned. We are led to hope that from the Report of the Director of Housing even this house adjoining the older one on the west is to be remodelled, and therefore its more valuable neighbour will probably be safe. All of us are more or less familiar with the great tenement in the Cowgate that forms the north side of the quadrangle of the old Tailors' Hall. It is just opposite the building of the S.S.C. Society. It is a building of some historical importance, as attached to the Tailors' Hall. It was at one time thought that it would be pulled down, but an enlightened consideration will, it is hoped, prevent this. It is suggested that these houses, stout in the masonry and interesting in a hundred details, should not be demolished, but put to some purpose, and thus save them from the spoilers' hands. It is to be regretted that in the Cowgate there now remain very few old buildings, and the old houses which were the suburban residences of nobles, Church dignitaries, and wealthy merchants are almost all swept away. In the Canongate we are a little more fortunate. Walking down past Morocco Land on the left, and the dormered front of old Playhouse Close on the right, we still also rejoice in the presence of Moray House, with its bold stone balcony to the street, and its rich plastered domed ceilings inside. These fine ceilings are reminiscent of similar work in the halls of Glamis and Craigievar Castles.

It may cause some surprise that a member of the Town Council has a proposal of a "great improvement," viz., the pulling down of that part of the north side of the Canongate from New Street to the Canongate Tolbooth. Like every other improvement we may grant that it is well intentioned, but with the effects of other "Improvements" in our mind, this more drastic one may well take our breath away. But more: the proposal is not only to pull down these old edifices, but to replace them with quasi-replicas of old houses which were done to death in former years! Amongst others to be swept away are Lord Kames's house, a late eighteenth century house set back from the street, but unfortunately a later tenement was allowed to be built on its front garden. This is the only house of that type in the Canongate. Then below this are the Shoemakers' Lands, and Hall, the Bible Land, so-called because of the text sculptured on the open Book above the doorway. These tenements have interesting fenestration, being nicely grouped, and have mullions (quite uncommon at that date), and over the large block the turnpike stair has a circular stunted tower rising above the eaves, and this is covered by an ogee slated roof. Another good old house next the Tolbooth is marked for slaughter—a house quaint and strong, and mercifully without a history. These tenements, we may be sure, are not models from a sanitary point of view: but they are stout and strong, and can have their interior remodelled, and thus retained to preserve the "face" of the old city.

This brings us down to one of the most impressive parts of the old town, what might be called the Huntly Group—the Tolbooth and the Canongate Church, and the restored Cross and Well, on the one side of the street, and on the south side Huntly House and its neighbours, which in whole must be saved. Huntly House, with two stone under-storeys, heavy corbelled course, and inscribed panels, is the central figure of the group. The lettered panels have given it the name of "The Speaking House." Above the stone storeys is a timber projecting storey and three gables—a good example of its class. This house is for sale, and partly condemned. It is in miserable repair. What is to be done with it? The low archway under the east gable is a pend leading to Bakehouse Close, from which we can see part of the back of Huntly House—a favourite sketching subject, with its oddly-spaced windows, and its gable and chimneys. On the east side of the Close is the last remaining house with a complete forecourt, Acheson's House. Through the open doorway of the Court we get a nice peep of the entrance of the old mansion, and over the wall we see the strong seventeenth century walls and their dormers, so typical of the Scottish home of that date.

We must now draw this rapid and rugged survey to a close. A few yards down the street is Nisbet of Dirleton's House, all of stone, with a recessed stair tower, a massive gable on the street, and a square



corbelled outshot at the eastern side. The back of this house is as interesting in its way as that of Huntly House. A few doors down is Bull's Close, with a plain but worthy timber gable showing to the street. It is at present condemned, but we trust it will fall into the category of those to be remodelled and not of those to be destroyed. Some people would be content if all the houses of historic moment were saved; we may stretch a point and say that those of architectural merit should also be retained. But if our descendants are to have any idea of the former appearance of old Edinburgh, there are many buildings large and small that must be left, that the development of the city in its buildings may be understood. No houses, however sanitary, can ever take the place and serve the purpose of the old "lands." These old dwellings must be left in their outward appearance, and remodelled within, so that they can be called "slums" no more. If such an enlightened policy is adhered to, then people from far and near (as at present) will continue to flock to the ancient capital of Scotland; and if these old dwellings are slums no more, but clean and wholesome, occupied by contented people, then their memories of their sojourn in our old city will be all the more pleasant.

### THE ZEEBRUGGE MEMORIAL COMPETITION DESIGNS.

In the gloom and anxieties of the spring of 1918, following hard on the great retreat and the enemy thrust for Hazebrouck in April came the gallant audacity of the sea attack on Zeebrugge on St. George's Day, an exploit which not only stimulated the morale of the Allies, but had the further practical result of making the harbour, as was the intention, useless as a submarine base. It is proposed to commemorate this epic feat of arms by a monument on the quay between the Mole and the gates of the canal lock, a site particularly fitting as being in the very centre of the action: on the one side is the spot where Sandford's gallant submarine, that humanly guided torpedo, blew up under the Mole viaduct, and on the other is the canal mouth, the main objective of the attack. For this purpose the Anglo-Belgian Union obtained the services of an expert committee—consisting of Sir George Frampton, R.A., Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A., Mr. Marion Spielmann, M. Paul Lambotte, M. Jules Brunfaut, M. Rousseau, and M. Ryelaedt—to organise and assess a competition open to British and Belgian architects and sculptors. The committee has now made its award, and the designs, mainly models, were recently on exhibition at the R.I.B.A. Galleries in Maddox Street.

It is an occasion to commemorate rather the deed than the dead, and such a monument should be not funereal, but triumphant. And in the second place it must be, obviously, of sufficient scale and vigour to stand by the sea and the big things of the sea—ships and harbour, Mole and lighthouse. The winning design, No. 38 (M.M. Dupont and Smolderen), with its dominating figure of St. George in triumph on the top of a pylon some 50 ft. high, and its strongly modelled bronze figures in conflict at the base, is a fine solution of the problem, and, sobered under the influence of mason and bronze-caster, should make a memorial not

unworthy of the deed. No. 32 (Messrs. T. S. Tait and W. R. Dick), an obelisk about 75 ft. high, with a band of bronze figures in high relief round the base, is nearly as good, but it lacks the triumph of the other. No. 39 (Messrs. B. Clemens and E. F. Tomlins), a half-roused lion on a pyramidal base, is monumental, but seems rather to suggest defence than victory, and (in spite of the destroyer motif in its decorative band) is not so original.

The remaining designs may be grouped under two heads, the obelisk form and the memorial building. Examples of the latter are No. 5, recalling the Temple architecture of the Aztecs; No. 15, with its colossal figures and stepped buildings, breathing the ancient night of Nineveh; No. 17, a pavilion built in diminishing cubes; Nos. 34 and 41, of Pagoda form; No. 36, a lighthouse, heraldry and figures; and No. 35, where the wrecked *Vindictive* has become a chapel between pylons. Do look, too, for the triumphal arch to which the legend is attached "Approximate estimate of this project from the ground line Hundred Thousand Pound."

Those of the obelisk form are too many to specify in detail. On the whole they seem to suffer from being too gentle and peaceful—for example, No. 23 and No. 3 (pleasantly drawn). With their pollarded trees and cypresses they ask for a park to adorn, not a coastline and a horizon of sea. With a war so vast and real and bloody and significant still, as it were, at our doors, it is surely out of place to go to the middle ages for their armoured knights and to Rome for her triremes. Of the grimmer sort are No. 24, twin towers with St. George on horseback riding through; No. 20, Nos. 12 and 13, which smell of sulphur and call for some demon apparition; and No. 9, which is spoilt by a loss of scale at the base. On the whole it is a most interesting exhibition, and a comment on national characteristics; where we are bad we tighten into primness; where the Belgian is bad he falls into licence.

W. G. NEWTON [A.].

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Christopher Wren, his Son, and "Parentalia."

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—I was sorry that I could not be present when my old friend Mr. Sydney Perks read his very interesting Paper on "London Town Planning in 1666." I appreciate his investigations, but with all complaisance find it goes against the grain to read his animadversions upon Wren and severe strictures on the son, who appears to have been a high-minded gentleman.

When Evelyn, on the 13th September, 1666, presented to the King a plot for a new City with a discourse on it, they were accompanied by a survey of the ruins. With regard to Wren's survey, *Parentalia*, as my friend reminds us, narrates: "Dr. Wren . . . immediately after the Fire took an exact Survey of the whole Area and Confines of the Burning, having traced over, with great Trouble and Hazard the great Plain of Ashes and Ruins." The plotting of Wren and Evelyn do not agree as to the limit of the damage by fire, but it might be supposed that Wren produced a reliable plan after examining and ascertaining the condition of the City with general comprehensiveness—after a survey not obscure but exact in regard to what he had to tell. In other words, Wren made a wide and comprehensive survey, and it appears to me his son claims nothing more, though I admit I might be mistaken.

Mr. Penrose wrote (*D.N.B.*): "Wren, as virtual Surveyor-General, felt it was his duty to prepare a scheme for the rebuilding of the City," and it is credible that he did this pursuant to the royal commands. (*Parentalia*, 267).

As virtual Surveyor-General and one of the three Commissioners appointed by the Crown he was equipped, and, thus appointed, was in the position subsequently to control the course of affairs. Designs doubtless were submitted to him for approval. As a Commissioner of course he made arrangements with the City authorities, who assisted, as was intended, in much routine and other work; and chief or special assistance assigned to Hooke is acknowledged. It appears that Wren received no such official designation as supposed (or thought to be implied) by his son, of whose brief introduction in diction of the time the substance, however, remains, and is accounted for: "Dr. Christopher Wren was appointed Surveyor-General and principal Architect for rebuilding the whole City; the Cathedral Church of St. Paul; all the parochial Churches (in Number Fifty-one, enacted by Parliament, in lieu of those that were burnt and demolished) with other publick Structures; and for the Disposition of the Streets; A Charge so great and extensive, incumbent on a single Person, disposed him to take to his Assistance Mr. Robert Hook, Professor of Geometry in Gresham College, to Whom he assigned chiefly the Business of measuring, adjusting, and setting out the Ground of the private Street-houses to

the several Proprietors: reserving all the publick Works to his own peculiar Care and Direction."

I suppose all the men who quickly prepared plans for the rebuilding of the City had some opinion of themselves, and if Wren knew, and rightly, his own powers, still, judging from his character, his chief concern was for a fine city and worthy buildings. I do not, of course, suggest that Mr. Perks implies that Wren was avaricious. Yet the view that he was determined to be architect for as many large buildings as possible—even related to the other suggestion that he was ultra-ambitious—is open to misconception. His disinterestedness is matter of history, and it ought not to be overlooked that he received only £300 a year (in money of the time) as architect for the Cathedral and all the churches. His son testifies: "Nevertheless he was content with this small allowance nor coveted any additional profit, always preferring the public service."

The son's description of his father's proposed layout is accounted for by supposing it talked with an authentic plan seemingly not extant—the "plan to be annex'd," notified in the margin of the MS. of *Parentalia*. This I think would be the conclusion arrived at by my friend.—Yours faithfully,

HARRY SIRR [F.].

#### Dividing the Profession.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—There are certain points in the letter of Mr. Maurice B. Adams in the last issue of the JOURNAL which, in my opinion, require some comment. Mr. Adams states that the wholesale blackballing of candidates last June left the Council no course but to take effective means to set that matter right. He, however, doubts the wisdom of the method proposed to be adopted—namely, the suspension of By-laws 10 and 11. I cannot see, if the matter must be rectified, what other course is open to the Council; but my contention is that no rectification is necessary.

The course of action adopted by Mr. Adams and those other members who blackballed the candidates was perfectly constitutional, and the result is that the rejected candidates are debarred from further candidature for a period of twelve months, six of which are already expired. Meanwhile the Council have the opportunity of further examining the credentials of the gentlemen concerned and recommending those for election who will come within a definite ruling as to the date of passing the Intermediate Examination. If these gentlemen are then elected, as will more than probably be the case, I fail to see that any severe hardship will have been inflicted. It is difficult to understand how Mr. Adams should think that the issue was raised to divide the Institute when the only objection taken at the Special General Meeting on the 1st December 1919 was to the extension of an already sufficiently graceful concession, thus providing a means for the election as Associates of those who had

had ample opportunities of qualifying long before the commencement of the Great War.

With regard to the reference made to the alleged concerted action of the Official Architects' Association, I have no doubt that Mr. Maurice B. Adams' remarks will be answered very fully by those better informed.

The other point Mr. Adams makes is the chronic failure on the part of Associates who, he suggests, do not recognise their personal obligations to the Institute to become Fellows. In this connection it is probably not realised that, in accordance with the present constitution, there are quite a number of senior Associates debarred by the *seven year "practice"* stipulation from candidature as Fellows, though by their work, often produced anonymously, and the length and extent of their experience, their claim might well justify transference to that grade: and I suggest that if clause 3 of the Charter referring to the election of Fellows were extended to admit of their candidature a great number at present debarred might avail themselves of the opportunity.

ARTHUR W. SHEPPARD [A.].



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 10th January 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### The R.I.B.A. War Memorial.

The Memorial which, as already announced, the Council have decided to erect at the Institute, will take the form of a tablet bearing the names of members who lost their lives in the War. The design of the Memorial will be the subject of a competition limited to members and students who served in His Majesty's Forces during the War. The conditions of competition are being prepared by the Competitions Committee and will be made known as soon as possible. Meanwhile, as it is feared that there may be names missing from the R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour, the assistance of members and non-members in making it complete is earnestly solicited. To facilitate their co-operation, the list as compiled from the latest information received at the Institute is here printed.

#### HONORARY FELLOW

Kitchener of Khartoum: Field-Marshal Earl.

#### HONORARY ASSOCIATE

Donaldson: Sir Hay Frederick.

#### FELLOWS.

Corbett: Alfred Edward, Capt., Border Regt.  
Fletcher: Herbert Phillips, D.S.O., *Croix de Guerre*, Major, R.F.C.  
France: Arthur Alderson, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
Halley: James Mitchell White, Major, Royal Engineers.  
Livesay: George Augustus Bligh, Lieut., South Wales Borderers.  
Lines: Roland Walter, Lieut., Canadian Expeditionary Force.

#### ASSOCIATES.

Adams: Laurence Kingston, Lieut., 7th King's Liverpool Regt.  
Aitken: Andrew Danskin, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
Alexander: George Luard, Capt., London Regt. (attached Staff).  
Barrow: Spencer Ellwood, Lieut., 5th Bn. King's Own Royal Lancaster Regt.  
Barry: Francis Renton, Capt., 5th (Reserve) East Surrey Regt.  
Bausor: Thomas Paul, 2nd Lieut., Shropshire Light Infantry.  
Bennett: James, Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
Bennett: Phillip Denn's, Capt., 5th Lancashire Regt.  
Binning: Alan, Sergt., London Scottish.  
Bownass: James Everitt, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.  
Braithwaite: James Ellis, Private, West Yorks Regt.  
Bull: Joseph William, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
Cable: James Sydney, Lieut., Royal Garrison Artillery.  
Callender: George Wilfred, Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
Carmichael: David Arthur, Lieut.  
Clark: Walter Llewellyn, Capt., Royal Flying Corps.  
Cowdell: Charles Joseph Morton, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
Cubey: Joseph Berkeley, Capt., Northumberland Fusiliers.  
Davies: Joseph Charles Gladstone, Lieut., Egypt Exp. Force.  
Dunn: Gerald Morton, 2nd Lieut., Royal Garrison Artillery.  
Durrant: Arthur Michael, Capt., Royal Engineers.  
Eaton: Charles William, Capt., Leicester Regt.  
Finning: Leonard John, Sergt., 24th Bn. 6th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
Fraser: Henry Hubert, Lieut., 3rd Yorks Regt.  
Gibson: Edmund Herbert, Lieut., Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.  
Gorringe: Wilfred Stuart.  
Griffin: Douglas Morley, 2nd Lieut., King's Liverpool Regt.  
Grissell: Francis, Lieut., Coldstream Guards.  
Ground: John Kingston, 2nd Lieut., Royal West Kent Regt.  
Gutteridge: Richard Howard, 2nd Lieut., London Regt.  
Hadwen: Noel Waugh, Capt., Duke of Wellington's Regt.  
Hartmann: Charles Herbert, Lieut., Royal West Kent Regt.  
Hill: Claude Edgar, Staff-Sergt., Royal Army Medical Corps.  
Honan: Matthew, Capt., South Lancashire Regt.  
Hooley: Tom Williamson, 2nd Lieut., Durham Light Infantry.  
Horsfield: John Nixon, Lieut., Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.  
Houston: William Wylie, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
Hoyle: Wilfred, Royal Fusiliers.  
Hunter: George Edward, Capt., 6th Northumberland Fusiliers.  
Iker: Sydney Howard, Lieut., Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.  
Kay: George Alexander, 2nd Lieut., 2nd Notts and Derby Regt.  
Leech: William Leonard Bognhurst, Rifleman, 9th County of London Regt.

Lovell : Charles Ernest, Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
 Lowes : Albert Edward, A.S.C., 6th Northumberland Fusiliers.

Mackenzie : Gilbert Marshall, Capt., Seaforth Highlanders.  
 Meikleham : David Lang, Lee.-Corpl., Royal Engineers.  
 Milne : David, 2nd Lieut., Hants Cyclist Batt.  
 Minor : Philip, Lieut., Durham Light Infantry.  
 Notley : Albert Carr, Lancashire Regt.  
 Papworth : Alfred Wyatt, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
 Petch : Ernest Scott, Private, Royal Scots Regt.  
 Phillips : Louis Augustus, Sergt., Public Schools Bn., Royal Fusiliers.

Philp : Richard Manning Haig, Capt., Royal Field Artillery.  
 Pilling : Percy Cunliffe, Capt., Loyal North Lancs. Regt.  
 Ponton : Harold Frederick.

Pywell : William Jackson, Private, Hon. Artillery Company.

Rigg : William Arthur, Public Schools Brigade.  
 Rogers : Cecil Walter, 2nd Lieut., Royal West Surrey Regt.

Rushworth : Tom Sadler, Capt., City of London Regt.  
 Shears : Reginald, London Regt.  
 Shield : James Edward Coleman.

Stone : George Harrison, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.  
 Stonehouse : Charles, Lieut., East Lancashire Regt.  
 Stubbs : Edward Woodhouse, Lee.-Corpl., Royal Army Medical Corps.

Sturgeon : Robert Victor, Corpl., Manchester Regt.  
 Taylor : Herbert Samuel, 2nd Lieut., Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry.

Taylor : Joseph Henry, Lee.-Corpl., Royal Army Medical Corps.

Toone : John Algernon Edmund, Capt., Australian Divn., Pioneers.

Warry : John Lucas, 2nd Lieut., Rifle Brigade.

Watt : John Douglas Dickson.

Webb : Philip Edward, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.

Whiteley : Charles Taylor, Lieut., Royal Warwickshire Regt.

Winch : Arthur, Corpl., West Yorks Regt.

Wright : Cecil Lawrence, 2nd Lieut., Royal Garrison Artillery.

#### LICENTIATES.

Abercrombie : Balfour, Private, Black Watch.

Atkinson : Beaumont Elms, Lee.-Corpl., Middlesex Regt.

Barker : Thomas Christopher, Yorks Regt.

Blackburne-Daniell : George Francis, 2nd Lieut., Royal Fusiliers.

Bowie : George Pigrum, Capt., 5th Bn. 1st Canadian Contingent.

Caudwell : Arthur Cyril, Private, Queen's Westminster Rifles.

Dicken : Aldersey, Sub-Lieut., Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.

Flower : Victor Augustine, D.S.O., Lt.-Col., London Regt.

Garratt : Edward.

Harrison : Christopher René, Lieut., 3rd Leicester Regt.

Henman : Charles Henry Rowed, Quartermaster-Sergt., 1st Field Co., Divn. Eng., R.N.D.

Hockway : Gilbert John Frank, Private, Cambridgeshire Regt.

Jane : William, Major, Royal Engineers.

Mettham : John Arthur, Capt., Royal Engineers.

O'Brien : Edward, Royal Army Medical Corps.

Phillips : Arthur Maxwell, Capt., 11th King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

Pullin : Henry Charles, Rifle Brigade.

Smith : James Buchanan Pentland, Lee.-Corpl.

Tinniswood : Alfred, Lieut., Royal Engineers.

Tucker : Arthur Haines, Lieut., Royal Sussex Regt.

Williams : William Harold, Lieut., Royal Garrison Artillery.

Wilson : John Hardy, 2nd Lieut., Sherwood Foresters.

Wingate : Alexander, 2nd Lieut., 9th Highland Light Infantry.

#### STUDENTS.

Adams : Henry Eustace, Rifle Brigade.

Appleby : Sidney Derrick, 2nd Lieut., Loyal North Lancashire Regt.

Bagshawe : Arthur Samuel, Trooper, West Kent Yeomanry.

Bell : Edgar Alan, Lee.-Corpl., Staffs Regt.

Beville : Alfred Geoffrey, 2nd Lieut., London Regt.

Brundle : Henry Carleton, Lieut. (acting Capt.), Lancashire Fusiliers.

Chalkley : Thomas Henry, Lieut., Machine Gun Corps.

Davison : W. Rupert, Middlesex Regt.

Dixon : Cyril Burton, M.C., Captain.

Doe : Edgar Herbert, Private, Royal Berks. Regt.

Dowsett : Thomas William, Sergt., Hon. Artillery Company.

Ford : Lawton Stephen, Lieut., Queen's Royal West Surrey Regt.

Freaker : Allen Lionel, Sergt., London Regt.

Fromant : Edward George Dawson, Lee.-Corpl., 1st City of London Sanitary Coy., R.A.M.C.

Gascoyne : Charles, Capt., Sherwood Foresters.

Gaskell : Reginald Robinson, Lieut., Royal Flying Corps.

Gordon : Donald Jervis, 2nd Lieut., Border Regt.

Hardman : Adrian T., Lieut., Royal Fusiliers.

Hillyer : William Harold, Capt., Royal Engineers.

Hornell : Alck George, 2nd Lieut., Suffolk Regt.

Hough : Topham Becher Dabridgecourt, 2nd Lieut., 8th East Yorkshire Regt.

Irvin : John Hawkmoore, 4th Bn. Seaforth Highlanders.

Jenkins : William M., Lieut., Welsh Pioneer Batt.

Knight : Philip, 2nd Lieut., King's Royal Rifles.

Lawson : F. H., Capt., 5th Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers.

Lawton : William Victor, Lieut., Royal Engineers.

Lowrie : William John, Private, Seaforth Highlanders.

McLean : James Monteith, 2nd Lieut., Highland Light Infantry.

Matthews : John Beedel, M.C., Capt., North Staffs. Regt.

Moodie : John, 2nd Lieut., Seaforth Highlanders.

Moscrop : William Noel Jobson, Capt. and Adj., 5th Durham Light Infantry.

Newbery : Charles Joseph, Private, 3rd Royal Fusiliers.

Paterson : Henry Franklin, Private, Hon. Artillery Co.

Penderel-Brodhuist : Bernard Richard, Lieut., Royal Engineers.

Pite : Horace Victor Walter, Lieut., Hampshire Regt.

Reynolds : John Eric, Lieut., Royal Air Force.

Shapley : Alfred Edwin, Lieut., Northumberland Fusiliers.

Stott : Alfred Edgar, King's Liverpool Regt.

Stuart : Alexander D., Lieut., Seaforth Highlanders.

Taylor : Martin Bartley, Private.

Turner : Thomas Edwin, Lieut., 13th County of London Regt.

Walch : James Bernard Millard, 2nd Lieut., 2nd Royal West Surrey Regt.

Walker : Denis H., Capt., 5th P.W.O. Yorkshire Regt.

Waller : Thomas Jenkinson, 2nd Lieut., Northumberland Fusiliers.

Westwood : Walter R., 2nd Lieut., Royal Field Artillery.

Whitbread : Leslie George, Private, 1/6th Bn. Manchester Regt.

Whitehead : Henry Montagu, 2nd Lieut., 4th East Surrey Regt.

Woodhouse : Cecil Herbert, Capt., York and Lancaster Regt.

Woodley : Stanley W., 2nd Lieut., Royal Flying Corps.

Wray : Ernest Wainford, 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.

#### The R.I.B.A. and the Institute of Scottish Architects.

An important reorganisation of architectural societies in Scotland has just been completed. The independent societies which previously existed have united to form the Institute of Scottish Architects, with five Chapters at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen and Inverness. The first President of the

new body is Mr. William Kelly, A.R.S.A., of Aberdeen. The constitution and by-laws have been approved and the new body has been admitted as an Allied Society under the provisions of the Charter of the Royal Institute.

#### Suggestions for Reconstruction of Charing Cross Area.

*The Times* of the 7th January devoted a leader and considerable further space to the description and illustration of suggestions by Mr. John Murray [F.], Surveyor to the Crown Estates in London, for improvements in the Charing Cross area. The proposals are seen at a glance in Mr. Murray's sketch plan and perspective view. Charing Cross Station and Hotel are to be moved to the south side of the river. The widened frontage of the south side of the Strand is continued westwards towards Agar Street, and then bends to intersect the new high-level bridge at right-angles. On either side of the bridge a street descends to the level of the Embankment. A very large open space, including the existing courtyard of the station, is provided for marshalling the traffic, and a new Imperial Way is designed to curve through property of relatively small value from the new Charing Cross to Leicester Square. The perspective view is taken from the Strand looking across the new high-level bridge towards the London County Council Hall and the new Charing Cross Station and Hotel. The bridge is flanked by monumental domed buildings, and a Monument of Victory is placed in the open space opposite to it. Farther west is an Opera House, facing the existing Charing Cross Monument, which is not to be disturbed. *The Times* in its comments upon the scheme says:—

We are disposed to accept the view that it would be a grave mistake to bring the new north and south traffic to the level of the Embankment, where it would have to cross a roadway already burdened with tramways and heavy traffic. If it be taken to the level of the Strand, this difficulty is surmounted, and an opportunity is provided for a magnificent prospect. But it also requires the provision of a wide space in which the new stream from the south, and the east and west currents between Trafalgar Square and the Strand, may meet and blend. The widening of the Strand and the removal of Charing Cross Station give space for this, leaving the old Cross and the entrances to the Tube stations undisturbed in an "island." The traffic will be further relieved by the construction of a new Imperial Way, curving through property of relatively low value from Leicester Square to the Strand.

#### Restoration of Belgium: An Invitation to British Architects

The Minister of Health, in a letter to the R.I.B.A. dated 1st January, intimates that he has been requested by Baron Delvaux de Fenffe, High Commissioner for Liège, to call the attention of British professional institutions interested to the programme of a competition for designs of various types of buildings required in the restoration of the devastated regions of Liège, Namur, and Luxembourg. The project has the assent of the Belgian Minister of the Interior. The High Commissioner says that it is

the wish of all who have at heart the full and complete restoration of the country that the reinstated districts shall possess charm, the cities be recreated under the inspiration of their regional arts, and the resources of local tradition be freely drawn upon and local materials utilised. He disclaims any idea of uniformly repeated types; a judicious diversity is essential.

"Mais," he says, "il n'est pas niable qu'une collection de beaux types de façades de diverses espèces de constructions, appropriées à la contrée et à l'usage auquel elles sont destinées, bien inspirées des styles régionaux, sera une précieuse indication pour tous, en même temps qu'un guide pour les bâtisseurs qui voudront, sans nul doute, écouter la voix de nos artistes, pour ajouter à la Patrie un nouveau charme de beauté!"

The following is the full text of the Conditions of Competition:—

Art. 1.—Il est ouvert un concours de façades pour les maisons à édifier dans les communes adoptées des provinces de Liège, Namur et Luxembourg.\*

Le concours portera sur 10 catégories de constructions:

1<sup>re</sup> Maison d'habitation d'un ouvrier, d'un petit propriétaire ou d'un petit employé.

2<sup>re</sup> Maison d'habitation d'un bourgeois (rentier ou profession libérale).

3<sup>re</sup> Maison de commerce de peu d'importance (petite boutique).

4<sup>re</sup> Maison de commerce d'une certaine importance.

5<sup>re</sup> Maison de campagne, très modeste.

6<sup>re</sup> Maison de campagne, assez importante.

7<sup>re</sup> Petite ferme.

8<sup>re</sup> Grosse ferme.

9<sup>re</sup> Maison communale.

10<sup>re</sup> Ecole.

N.B. Pour les 4 premières catégories, les maisons de coin sont considérées comme particulièrement intéressantes. Toutes les façades jugées dignes d'être édifiées seront primées. En outre, le Jury classera les façades primées dans chacune des catégories.

Art. 2.—Le Jury tiendra compte de la valeur et du caractère de la construction, relativement à la catégorie à laquelle elle appartient. Chaque façade devra être l'expression et sera accompagnée d'un plan croquis logique, confortable et inhérent à sa catégorie. Les concurrents se pénétreront de cette pensée que les façades projetées doivent prendre place dans un cadre de constructions ayant son originalité et ses caractères propres, et s'harmoniser avec celles-ci. On peut citer à titre exemplatif les genres suivants: Dinant et les localités dévastées de la province de Namur.—Battice, Herve, Visé.—le sud du Luxembourg: Ethe, Tintigny, etc. etc. La préférence ira aux œuvres inspirées des styles régionaux et utilisant les matériaux du pays, ainsi qu'aux projets traités avec économie, et tenant compte de la cherté des matériaux et de la main d'œuvre.

Art. 3.—Le Jury disposera d'une prime de 10,000 frs. d'une autre de 5,000 frs. de 4 de 2,500 frs. et de 25 de 1,000 frs. qu'il répartira et éventuellement subdiv. sera selon les mérites des œuvres présentées. Ces primes pourront être accordées intégralement à l'auteur de plusieurs projets primés.

\* Les communes adoptées sont:

Province de Liège. Barchon, Battice, Berneau, Boncelles, Flérot, Flaucourt, Hermès, Herve, Julémont, Louveigné, Moulant, Olne, Sallés, Visé.

Province de Namur. Dinant, Hastière par delà, Houx, Onhaye, Orêt, Rombout, Sotimus, Surice.

Province de Luxembourg. Herbeumont, Ethe, Iz l, Massin, Musson, Porchevass, Rosignol, Tintigny.

*Art. 4.*—Le Jury pourra décerner en outre, des diplômes de médailles d'or, de vermeil, d'argent et de bronze, suivant la valeur des projets.

*Art. 5.*—Le Jury statuera souverainement.

*Art. 6.*—Le Jury sera composé comme suit :

Le Haut-Commissaire Royal ou son délégué.

Un Membre de la Commission Royale des Monuments.

Un Délégué de la Fédération des Sociétés d'Architecture de Belgique.

Un Délégué de l'Union des Villes et Communes belges.

Un Délégué de la Commission pour l'embellissement de la vie rurale.

L'Architecte Directeur du Service des Constructions du Haut-Commissariat.

Un artiste désigné par les concurrents.

Le Secrétariat du Jury sera tenu par un fonctionnaire désigné par le Haut-Commissaire.

*Art. 7.*—Les envois seront anonymes ; chaque projet sera marqué d'un signe reproduit sur deux enveloppes fermées ; une, contenant le nom et l'adresse du concurrent, l'autre, le nom de l'artiste proposé par le concurrent comme membre du Jury. Les envois seront remis au bureau du Haut-Commissariat à Liège, avenue de l'Exposition, 35, au plus tard le 31 janvier 1920, avant midi. Il est désirable que les dessins soient sur châssis.

*Art. 8.*—Un artiste pourra présenter plusieurs projets et concourir dans plusieurs catégories. Les dessins des façades primées resteront la propriété du Haut-Commissariat.

*Art. 9.*—Les façades seront bien dessinées à l'échelle de 0m.02 par mètre, et accompagnées éventuellement de coupes, profils et détails à l'échelle de 1/50 par mètre. Les indications nécessaires seront aussi données sur la nature des matériaux employés.

*Art. 10.*—Le Jury est tenu de dresser un rapport, où il donnera son avis sur chacun des projets présentés. Après le jugement, tous les projets envoyés seront exposés publiquement pendant 15 jours. Cette exposition du concours aura lieu aux dates et aux endroits qui seront ultérieurement déterminés. A partir du 20 février, les projets non primés pourront être retirés contre reçu, au local de leur exposition, jusqu'au 1<sup>er</sup> mars 1920.

*Art. 11.*—Les propriétaires sinistrés seront vivement engagés à construire les façades primées. Pour chacune de ces façades exécutées et après avis du Jury, une prime d'encouragement pourra éventuellement être allouée au propriétaire de l'immeuble, si le gouvernement en décide ainsi. L'architecte, auteur de la façade exécutée, aura la direction artistique de cette façade et recevra une indemnité égale à 20% de la prime donnée au propriétaire. Pour certaines façades spéciales de constructions très en vue et dont l'exécution serait coûteuse, Monsieur le Haut-Commissaire pourra éventuellement, sur avis du Jury, accorder une indemnité plus élevée, en raison de la valeur artistique de l'œuvre.

**NOTE.**—Il est rappelé que les concurrents conservent la propriété artistique de leurs œuvres. En conséquence, les propriétaires qui voudraient construire des façades inspirées d'une de celles primées pour être adaptées à des plans spéciaux ou à d'autres proportions, seront vivement engagés à s'adresser à l'auteur de la façade qui aura leurs préférences. Pour celles-là aussi, sur avis du Jury, des primes d'encouragement pourront éventuellement et avec l'assentiment des pouvoirs publics, être accordées au propriétaire. Pour ces cas, l'auteur des plans aura à recevoir du propriétaire les honoraires prévus par le tarif de la Société des Architectes.

Liège, le 4 nov. 1919.

Le Haut-Commissaire Royal,  
BARON DELVAUX DE FENFEL.

Approuvé à Bruxelles, le 6 nov. 1919.

Le Ministre de l'Intérieur,

BARON DE BROQUEVILLE.

It will be noted that Baron de Broqueville's approval of the Conditions was given on the 6th November and that the date of sending in designs is the 31st January, while the invitation to British architects to take part only reached the Institute on the 2nd January. Representations were at once made to the Minister of Health that the time allowed British architects was inadequate and asking him to use his good offices with the promoters to get an extension.

#### National Congress of Belgian Architects.

Translated from information supplied by M. Sayers (Lu ge), and communicated by Mr W. E. WOOLLEY, Corresponding Member Liège Association of Architects.

The 9th National Congress of Belgian Architects was opened on Sunday morning, 14th December 1919, at the Palais de la Bourse, Brussels. The President, Monsieur Mankels, referred to the part played by Belgian architects during the war, naming those who had fallen on the battlefield or had died in other ways for their country.

On the proposition of Monsieur Bonduelle (Société Centrale d'Architecture de Belgique) and M. Symons, it was resolved :—

" That the ' Ministre de l'Intérieur ' be requested to set up a Committee of distribution or allotment of architectural works, such Committee to comprise a limited number of architects chosen by their confrères and representing the devastated regions : the Committee to propose the allotment of works according to the special capacities of the architects, and to take over works already entrusted which have not given satisfaction."

M. Arthur Snyers (President of the Liège Association of Architects) discussed the question of the architect's diploma, which had been agitated for since 1874 in the various professional organs and congresses. He said it was not sufficient for the architect to have indispensable knowledge : he must also be an artist. In general, the existing teaching at the schools responded to their needs, and public authorities welcomed their measures, but a diploma which would be recognised by law still remained to be created. The building public should have some guarantee that the architect possessed the necessary qualifications. A programme of studies, a probationary term, should be imposed upon all who aspired to practise as architects. At present anyone could call himself architect on paying for the licence.

On the motion of M. Symons it was resolved that the authorities be invited to create immediately an architect's diploma, as being indispensable to the reconstruction of the country, and that the National Federation be instructed to negotiate with the Government for the realisation of the proposal.

Another matter discussed was the question of rebuilding Ypres. Monsieur David deprecated the rebuilding of the town as it was before the war. Economic conditions had changed, and the old town was no longer suitable. Plans and procedure of reconstruction should be adapted to the exigencies of modern life and of social evolution. The principal ruins—the Halles (Cloth Hall), St. Martin, St. Pierre—should be preserved as a testimony of German vandalism and of the endurance and courage of the Allies : 250,000 English slept under the ruins of Ypres. A monumental museum should be formed of the most interesting debris. Some façade types should be perpetuated, but the reconstruction of Ypres should be approached in a spirit frankly modern.



In the discussion which followed, all the speakers, with one exception, expressed themselves in favour of the reconstruction of Ypres in modern style, the ruins of the Cloth Hall and of St. Martin only to be preserved.

#### The "Maison de l'Institut à Londres."

Mr. Davis, the American Ambassador, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Simpson for his Address at the opening meeting this session, observed that the artist speaks the universal language, a tongue that needs no interpreter, no grammar, and no dictionary, but by which the people of one country may speak across the intervening spaces to another and tell them of the life which they enjoy. Inspired by the same idea, Baron Edmond de Rothschild has carried it into fulfilment by founding in London a hostel for the use and benefit of French students of English art, science, and letters, and for the reception of members of the Institut de France visiting this country. The Baron, to whose public spirit and munificence both countries are already deeply indebted, believes that a durable international friendship may best be founded upon that common interest in art, science and literature, which exists apart from the world of politics.

It is a compliment which will be much appreciated by members that the advice of their President was sought upon the question of a suitable *local* for the London home of the Institut de France. The *Morning Post*, of the 22nd ult., gave the following particulars:—

"The establishment is similar to the Ecole de France at the Villa Médicis in Rome. Its purpose is to enable French students to acquaint themselves with the British Academies and Institutes, the collection of pictures, sculpture, and objects of art in this country, with English architecture, science, and literature, and to bring them into cordial relations with their British colleagues.

"In founding the 'Maison de l'Institut de France à Londres,' it is the design of Baron Edmond de Rothschild to increase and confirm the friendship between the French and English nations; and in his enlightened view the readiest means to that end consists in extending that common interest, and in enlarging that mutual appreciation of each other's achievements in art and science, which have always united the two peoples.

"A distinguished and learned connoisseur, Baron Edmond de Rothschild, unlike many collectors, values the artist as well as his work. The Baron has founded and endowed twenty-one scholarships tenable in the new Maison de l'Institut à Londres: seven for students of the Académie des Beaux-Arts, seven for the Académie des Sciences, and seven for the Literary Academies.

"It should here be explained that the Institut de France consists of five Academies: (1) Académie Française—this is, of course, the Academy of the Forty Immortals, to which no honorary members are admitted, and to which Marshal Foch and Marshal Joffre have recently been elected; (2) Académie des Beaux-Arts, consisting of Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, and Music; (3) Académie des Sciences; (4) Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques (to which Mr. A. J. Balfour was recently elected *membre correspondant*); and (5) Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres. Thus the renowned Institut de France, which, as a department of the Government, has not its peer in any other country, will be notably represented in London.

"Baron Edmond de Rothschild, himself a member of the Institute (Académie des Beaux Arts), upon coming to

England to initiate his project, sought the advice of Mr. John W. Simpson, President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the only British architect who has both been elected *membre correspondant de l'Institut de France (Académie des Beaux-Arts)*, and appointed by the *Ministre des Beaux-Arts, officier de l'Instruction Publique*. Mr. Simpson at once placed his services at the disposal of his confrère gratuitously. Mr. Simpson has been able to secure for the Maison de l'Institut à Londres the beautiful mansion, 185, Queen's-gate, built by the late Norman Shaw, R.A., the acknowledged master of English Domestic Architecture, for the late Colonel W. Vivian; and under Mr. Simpson's direction the house is now being fitted and furnished.

"Baron Edmond de Rothschild has purchased the freehold from the Crown, has endowed the property with a sufficient sum for its due maintenance, and has presented the whole to the Institut de France, so that the Maison de l'Institut de France now belongs to the French Government. Among the members of the *Commission d'Administration* are M. Ribot (Chairman), M. Cambon, Ambassadeur de France en Angleterre, M. Ch. Girault, architect, Président de l'Académie des Beaux-Arts, and the *secrétaires perpétuels* of the five Academies, including M. Ch. Widor, the eminent composer, and the famous organist of Saint-Sulpice.

"Lord Esher, Chairman of the Royal Commission of the Exhibition of 1851, representing the trustees of the site, has done all in his power to assist Baron Edmond de Rothschild in the fulfilment of his design. It is hoped that the work will be completed by next May, when the President of the French Republic will open the Maison de l'Institut à Londres."

#### The "Daily Mail" Labour-Saving House.

The awards in the *Daily Mail* Competition for Designs for a Middle-class Labour-saving House were as follows:—

First Prize, £250—Mr. C. J. Kay, of Horsham [*Licentiate*].

Second Prize, £100—Mr. G. Berkeley Wills [*A.*].

Third Prize, £50—Mr. E. W. Armstrong [Candidate for Associateship].

The Assessors were Mr. R. W. James, M.I.M.E., A.M.I.C.E., Chairman; Mrs. C. S. Guy; Miss Clementina Black, and Mr. Courtenay M. Crickmer [*F.*].

A broadsheet illustrating the Prize Designs—plans of first and second floors and perspectives of exteriors—and giving the outstanding points of merit has been published by the promoters.

The four general points which formed the basis of the assessors' final decisions were: (1) Convenience of the plan from the labour-saving point of view; (2) The merit of individual labour-saving suggestions incorporated in the house; (3) The economy with which the idea was carried out; (4) The architectural appearance of the exterior.

The assessors state that the First Prize house could be run with one servant with occasional help if the washing is done at home. A home providing the same accommodation built in the conventional way would require two, three, or four servants, according to whether it was planned as a two-storey, a three-storey, or a basement and three-storey house. The assessors consider that perfection has not as yet by any means been reached in the matter of labour-saving and simplification of household problems. But the prize plans are considered to be the best thus far produced, and it is but natural that architects will devise methods of improving them. In the opinion of the assessors, the



winning plans represent a very considerable advance over anything hitherto done, and mark an extraordinary improvement over houses built in the past. In the First Prize design there is not a dust harbour in the house. All angles are rounded, and mouldings are practically eliminated. Surfaces of walls, floors, ceilings, doors, and windows can be readily and easily cleaned without damage to the decoration. Bright metal fittings are done away with, and heating, cooking, and washing appliances are enamelled. The floors are damp-proof, warm, silent, and restful to the feet. The windows are hung and built in steel frames in such a way that both sides may be cleaned from the inside.

#### Inter-Allied Housing and Town Planning Congress.

Delegates appointed by the Governments of the Allied and neutral countries will be present at the Inter-Allied Housing and Town Planning Congress to be held in London in June next. Among subjects to be discussed will be national post-war housing and town planning policies, the preparation and carrying into effect of national programmes to secure proper housing conditions, standards of building construction, and national and regional town planning developments. The Congress will be asked to determine the minimum accommodation which should be provided for a normal working-class family, and the best courses to adopt in order to encourage the development of new methods of building and the use of new material.

The proceedings will occupy nine days, and special trains will be placed at the disposal of the delegates in which they will travel to inspect the progress made in housing schemes in various parts of the country, including Birmingham, Manchester, and Bristol.

The countries and Dominions represented will include Great Britain, France, America, Belgium, Italy, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, India, Egypt, South Africa, Serbia, Greece, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Spain, and the neutral Republics of South America.

The Congress is being organised by the National Housing and Town Planning Council, acting in close consultation with the Ministry of Health and other Departments of the British Government.

#### Garden Villages Conference at Croydon.

A Garden Villages Conference will be held at the Town Hall, Croydon, from January 26th to 30th, Councillor C. Heath Clark, J.P., Mayor of Croydon, to preside. The following Papers will be read in the Housing Section:—

*Mon., 26 Jan.:* 2.30—"The Ideal Garden Village—Its Part in National Reconstruction," by Mr. Ebenezer Howard (founder of Letchworth Garden City);

3.15—"The Winterslow Colony," by Mr. Mark Poore,

7.45—"Principles of Housing and Town Planning," by Capt. R. L. Reiss (Chairman Garden Cities and Town Planning Association).

*Tues., 27 Jan.:* 2.30—"Pisé Building and its Possibilities," by Mr. Clough Williams-Ellis.

3.15—"Brick v. Wood," by Mr. Alfred Crofts. This paper is an account of an experiment conducted by the lecturer at Carshalton to show that under certain conditions substantial brick cottages may be built at a cost only slightly higher than that of wooden bungalows.

The Conference is organised by the Surrey Land Settlement Committee for the purpose of securing support for its scheme of establishing near Croydon a garden village for ex-service men and others. Donations in aid of the Conference Funds will be gratefully received, and should be sent to Miss H. Macdonell Watson, Conference Secretary,

46, High Street, Croydon. Admission to the Conference is free.

#### A Reminiscence of Forty Years Ago.

At the General Meeting last Monday, on the announcement by the Hon. Secretary of the death of Mr. G. R. Julian [Associate 1878-1915], Mr. Wm. Woodward [F.] expressed great regret for his loss, Mr. Julian being a very old friend of his. Mr. Woodward recalled that Mr. Julian, Mr. R. M. Roe, Mr. Percy Monckton, one or two others, and himself, met, on many occasions, some forty years ago, at Mr. Roe's office in Basinghall Street, to discuss the question of obtaining for the Associates a vote, of which they were not then in possession. The result of it all was that the Council at that time were induced to look complacently upon the idea, and, ultimately, through the efforts of these few gentlemen, the Associates obtained the vote, the privileges of which they now exercise.

#### Monograph on the late Honoré Daumet.

M. Charles Girault [*Hon. Corr. M.*], Membre de l'Institut, has presented to the Institute a copy of his lately published monograph, "*Notes sur la Vie et les Œuvres de Honoré Daumet, Membre de l'Institut, 1826-1911*," with Preface by Léon Heuzy, Membre de l'Institut. Some thirty illustrations, several of them in colours, are given of the master's works. The volume is a fine specimen of the printer's art, letter-press, plates and paper leaving nothing to be desired. Only 300 copies have been printed. The work is issued by Victor Jacquemin, 20 Boulevard du Montparnasse, Paris.

#### Victoria and Albert Museum.

The Victoria and Albert Museum has lately received an important bequest of eighteenth-century porcelain, the gift of the late Miss Florence Augusta Beare in memory of Mr. Arthur Doveton Clarke. The bequest consists of a hundred pieces, the greater part of which were made at the Royal Saxon Factory at Meissen. The majority are figures and groups, modelled between 1740 and 1765 by Johann Joachim Kaendler and his pupils. Kaendler, the celebrated manager of the Meissen factory, may justly be considered the father of porcelain figure-modelling in Europe. Primarily a sculptor, it is to him that we owe the original idea of depicting in porcelain the everyday life of his time, while the modelling of articles for table purposes was revolutionised by his vigorous use of relief. His influence rapidly spread beyond Meissen and over the German border, and made itself felt in the porcelain works of England and France. Kaendler himself is saved by a strong vein of satire from the sentimentality that proved fatal to many of his successors. His conscious, if playful, criticism of eighteenth-century life at a German Court may be clearly seen in his numerous figures of children aping the manners of their elders: a charming example in the present bequest is a group representing Cupid in the guise of a lady at her toilette. Other figures of special interest are two adaptations of pictures by Chardin, *L'Econome* and *Les Amusements de la Vie Privée*, five from the set of French criers, and a group of children playing round a cherry tree. A pretty figure of a woman making lace is said to represent

Barbara Uttmann, who introduced pillow-lace making into Germany in the sixteenth century.

It is interesting to compare these Meissen figures with others in the bequest made elsewhere—at Frankenthal, Ludwigsburg, Vienna, and Höchst. The last-named factory is represented by a particularly attractive statuette of a Chinaman playing cymbals, from a model by J. P. Melchior.

The collection also includes an unusually large octagonal vase of Chelsea porcelain, its sides alternately covered with a deep mazarine blue glaze and painted with figures or birds. In these paintings may be recognised the hand of one of the best of the Chelsea artists, none of whose names, however, is known. The vase appears to be incomplete, as the blue panels were doubtless intended to receive gilt decoration, which for some reason has never been added.

The bequest is the more valuable as it goes far towards supplying one of the principal deficiencies in the Museum Collections of Ceramics. For the present the collection is exhibited in the East Hall (Room No. 50).

#### LOAN OF CHINESE POTTERY FIGURES

The Museum has lately received on loan from Mr. George Eumorfopoulos an important series of earthenware figures excavated in 1918 from a Chinese tomb of the Tang Dynasty (A.D. 618-906). Although isolated figures of this kind are not uncommon, sets from one tomb are still of excessive rarity. It is understood that the present series was found in an Imperial tomb, and the exceptional size of the figures lends probability to the statement. The set comprises two Buddhist priests, two supernatural figures, perhaps representing two of the Guardians of the Four Quarters of the Universe, two genii in the shape of seated monsters, two horses, two camels, and three grooms. It is exhibited in the Loan Court (Room 49).

In the same case is also shown a figure of an archer, perhaps Yen-mo or Yama, the god of death, from another tomb of the Tang Dynasty. This, too, has been lent by Mr. Eumorfopoulos, as well as a fine figure of a man riding a camel, which it is hoped will be exhibited very shortly in the neighbourhood of the others.

## COMPETITIONS.

### Ilfracombe Concert Hall Competition.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of this competition are wholly unsatisfactory. The Competitions Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment in the conditions. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the competition.

### Bridgwater Housing Competition. Eastbourne War Memorial.

The Competitions Committee have decided to recommend the Council to veto both these competitions because the conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute. Pending the issue of the veto, Members and Licentiates are therefore advised to take no part in the competition.

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

## ALLIED SOCIETIES.

### Birmingham Architectural Association.

BUILDING TRADITIONS AND MATERIALS OF SNOWDONIA.

The Fourth General Meeting of the Session was held at the Association's Rooms, Royal Society of Artists Buildings, New Street, Birmingham, on Friday, December 19th. The President, Mr. H. T. Buckland, F.R.I.B.A., occupied the chair, and 25 members were present, when Mr. Harold H. Hughes, A.R.I.B.A., delivered a lecture on "The Local Building Traditions and Materials of Snowdonia."

The Lecturer pointed out that the climatic conditions in the mountainous portions of Wales had a great effect on the design of buildings and the choice of materials. The storms that take place in this bleak, wild quarter of our islands are very severe, and unless one has actually experienced them, it is difficult to give a graphic description of their tremendous powers of penetration. Those who visit the district in summer, like those who climb only in sunny and dry weather, know nothing of the real glory of the hills—"Who sees them only in their summer hour, sees but their beauties halt, and knows not half their power."

In view of the physical features of this region, and the character of the elements, the low-lying ground was chosen by the Romans for the erection of dwellings, the larger buildings and most of the fortifications being erected on the higher ground. The earliest form of dwelling, and one which was certainly in existence at the time of the Roman occupation of the country, was a kind of circular hut, although the circular plan was not invariably adopted, however, but often varied to an oval or pear-shape. These dwellings were of a very rough type, and were neither provided with light nor ventilation: the smoke from any interior fire escaped by means of the doorway. The diameter varied from 10 to 20 feet, and sometimes it was even larger.

As time went on a house, rectangular on plan, was introduced, but very little improvement was made as regards comfort or domestic arrangements. It consisted of one room with an angle and fireplace on one of the end or shorter walls, and invariably had its doorway on one of the side or longer walls. The walls were very low, and the roof often sloped up at a pitch of 100°, and was nearly always thatched. The roof trusses were formed of oak, and were invariably in one large curved piece. The floors were formed of beaten clay; some examples of this type of floor exist in Wales to-day. After much wear these floors lend themselves to a polish, and in more than one instance they have been blackleaded.

The early churches were simple rectangular buildings, and oak and wattle were chiefly employed in their construction. The same plan was always adopted, no variation being recognised by the church builders of the period.

Descriptions of many of the types of buildings to which the Lecturer referred are to be found in Allen Raine's *On the Ways to the World, The Welsh People*, etc., although in these books the buildings described are of a later period, and are not actually within the area known as Snowdonia. They do, however, convey a splendid idea of the traditional Welsh dwelling.

The Rood Screens in the Welsh churches have a character of their own, and are indeed beautiful in design. The screen at Conway, however, is essentially English owing, of course, to the fact that it was designed and constructed after the advent of English influence in the country. It is without doubt the finest Rood Screen in Wales to-day. Another very beautiful Rood Screen is to be found at Llanrwst. There is also at this place a very picturesque bridge, dated 1636, over the Conway, that is said to have been built by Inigo Jones.

It is very interesting to note how much more easily the building traditions can be traced in the smaller villages

and hamlets. Few Welsh towns or villages, except such places as Maentwrog or Ruthin, are pleasing objects in themselves, but they harmonise admirably with their environment, and seem to fit into the landscape much as a portion of a jigsaw puzzle. In designing dwellings to suit these majestic surroundings, the architect is faced with innumerable difficulties, the battle with the elements defying him to the very utmost. It seems the harder the stone with which he constructs his walls, the less impervious are the buildings to wet. Some of the old walls were built 3 feet 6 inches thick, with a 4½ inch brick wall on the inside, the aperture being filled with brick, in an endeavour to keep the house dry, and incredible as it may seem, the weather actually penetrated this.

When windows were first introduced they were most inefficient, inasmuch as they did not perform the functions for which a window is expressly designed—*i.e.*, light and ventilation. They were certainly windows in name, but little more. The glass used was of the thick green opaque variety, and they were made in either one or two light, never three) lattice, and were not hung to open, but they were undoubtedly picturesque.

The evolution of the "step ladder" to the sleeping loft was a narrow stone stair, which invariably started on the ground floor from a position adjacent to the angle, or at the extreme gable end of the building.

Dormer windows were introduced at the end of the seventeenth century; hitherto the sleeping loft had not been too brilliantly lighted by the small windows in each gable.

In the eighteenth century the walls were built much higher, high enough, in fact, to permit of an upper storey, with its ceiling level coincident with the eaves; at any rate, it was not nearly so close to the ridge as it had been in previous types.

Granite or slate rock, according to the district, seems to have been very plentiful, and much use was made of both materials. The slate was procured in large sizes, some blocks being as much as 7 feet in length, and as it was desirable to have a wall which sloped out pretty considerably at its base—so that the moisture might be carried away from the building—the huge rocks naturally obtainable were admirably suited to this construction. An example of this type of plinth may be found in the Church at Bettws-y-Coed. Granite was often put into the walls in roundish-shaped boulders, and although this was both substantial and picturesque, the joints naturally were large and by no means weather-proof. A good deal of "coursed work" was also employed, the courses being large at the base and diminishing toward the gables; this method at once reminds us of the Cotswolds.

Many of the buildings were whitewashed, and opinion as to its utility, aesthetically, seems to be somewhat divided. It must be admitted that a white building in a background of beautiful green foliage and verdure, as many of the Welsh houses were, is all that can be desired, at least from the artist's standpoint; yet it can be argued that to cover a rubble wall, especially one that is well built and has good colouring about it, is deplorable. Probably the idea of whitening rough-cast to-day is in some way connected with the whitening of these buildings of Wales.

Stone slabs were used with good effect, and took the place of thatching; the spaces between the slates and under them were often filled with moss and clay to keep out the weather. The colours of the slates used varied from russet to red and green, and it strikes one rather forcibly that if more of this type were used to-day, the dull roofs of blue and purple, with which we are so familiar, would be more cheerful to look upon in this dreary climate of ours. There is not the slightest doubt that the common thin Bangor slate has been the means of destroying what would otherwise have been a picturesque English, aye, and even Welsh, village.

Tiles were used, but not very extensively, and in many cases they were placed alternately, red and black, producing a very chequer-board-like appearance.

The thing aimed at in Wales seemed to be simplicity of treatment, and this, together with the majestic, yet simple splendour of the surroundings, certainly produced a restful harmony that would appear astonishing and paradoxical among these huge mountains.

## Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society.

### WINGFIELD MANOR HOUSE.

At a meeting of the Society held on Tuesday, 16th December, Mr. H. G. Watkins [F.], president, in the chair, a letter was read from the Town Clerk of Nottingham, that the School of Art Committee regretted that it was not possible to accede to the Society's suggestion that a representative of the Architectural Society should be co-opted on the Committee. Two Associates were elected, and after other business, Mr. P. H. Currey [F.], Derby, delivered a lantern lecture on "The Manor House at Wingfield."

Mr. Currey pointed out that the special interest of Wingfield consisted in its being an example of a fully developed type of English country house, all built at one time. The remains of a neighbouring mound indicated probable early occupation of the site, which was adapted for easy defence. The Manor was held at Domesday by Robert, under Wm. Peveril as overlord, conveyed to Robert de Pavely, in whose family it remained till the time of Henry VI, when it passed through heiresses to the family of Swillington. The property was successfully claimed by Ralph, Lord Cromwell, who was born at Lambley, Notts. He was a favourite of the King, being Treasurer of Exchequer, Master of King's Hounds, Constable of Nottingham Castle, Keeper of Sherwood Forest, Parks of Clipstone, etc. He built Tattershall Tower and Church, Wingfield Manor House and rebuilt Wingfield Church. It was a fortified house, the necessity of fortifications being shown by the Lancastrian raid on Derby and Elvaston.

The lecturer described how the house was built round two courtyards, and was a natural development from the Saxon hall with bank and stockade. The outer court comprised the great barn and farm buildings. Features of the Manor were the beautiful masonry, the entrance to the inner court and the numerous chimneys. The porch and oriel of the Great Hall, the centre of life in a mediæval house, are fine examples of fifteenth century work at its best. Views of the buttery and kitchens were shown, also the remains of the drawing room, which was a bower over the buttery. The drawing room has often been called the chapel, but in Mr. Currey's opinion this is an error due to the large tracery window. The site of the chapel is unknown. Attention was called to the beautiful treatment of the vaulted roof and carved bosses of the undercroft.

The greater part of the captivity of Mary Queen of Scots was spent at Wingfield under the Earl of Shrewsbury, until she was removed to Tutbury. The Manor passed to the Earl of Pembroke in 1616, and on the outbreak of the civil war was garrisoned for the Parliamentary Party, but was captured for the King after four days' siege by Wm. Cavendish, Earl of Newcastle. In 1644 it was besieged, but Col. Dalby held it with great stubbornness for many months, until finally it was taken by assault by Col. Gell. The house was dismantled by order of Parliament. After the Restoration it passed to the family of Halton, the present owners. It was then partially restored, the Hall divided into two storeys and several rooms and square-headed windows inserted.

## MINUTES. V.

At the Fifth General Meeting (Business) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 5th January, 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. E. Guy Dawber, *Vice-President*, in the Chair: 17 Fellows (including 10 members of the Council), 7 Associates, and 1 Licentiate—the Minutes of the Meeting held 15th December, having been published in the *JOURNAL*, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The decease was announced of Edward William Hudson, *Associate*, elected 1889, sometime member of the Literature Standing Committee, and it was RESOLVED that the regrets of the Institute for his loss be entered on the Minutes, and that a message of sympathy and condolence be conveyed on behalf of the Institute to his nearest relatives.

The decease was also announced of George Richards Julian, *Associate* from 1878 to 1915.

The following candidates for membership were elected by show of hands:—

## AS FELLOWS (27).

Ayrton: Ormrod Maxwell [A., 1903].  
 Bluhm: Quentin Mangnall [A., 1910], Preston.  
 Bourne: Walter Hargreaves [A., 1899], Canada.  
 Boucher: Charles Geoffrey [A., 1910], Kedah.  
 Bridgman: Norman George [A., 1892], Paignton.  
 Brownrigg: Annesley Harold [A., 1908].  
 Chetwood: Henry John [A., 1910].  
 Gamble: Henry Gilbert [A., 1891], Lincoln.  
 Grant: Thos. Francis Wiltshire, M.C. [A., 1910].  
 Le Maitre: William Courtenay [A., 1905].  
 Maufe: Edward Brantwood, M.A. Oxon. [A., 1910].  
 Moore: Leslie Thomas, M.C. [A., 1905].  
 Muir: Robert George [A., 1912].  
 Oliver: Basil [A., 1910].  
 Ramsey: Stanley Churchill [A., 1906].  
 Scott-Moncrieff: William Walter, M.C. [A., 1912].  
 Smithers: Alec [A., 1908].  
 Stone: Henry Spencer Walcott [A., 1904], Taunton.  
 Strange: Charles Hilbert [A., 1891], Tunbridge Wells.  
 Tench: Edwin James [A., 1901], Norwich.  
 Willcocks: Conrad Birdwood [A., 1912], Reading.  
 Wills: Frank Reginald Gould [A., 1892].

And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying examination:—

Driver: Arthur James.  
 Esch: Vincent Jerome, Calcutta.  
 Kirby: Edmund Bertram, O.B.E., Liverpool.  
 Sandy: Henry Thos., Stafford.  
 Wilkinson: Stephen, Calcutta.

The proceedings closed and the Meeting separated at 8.15 p.m.

## NOTICES.

## Election of Members, 1st March, 1920.

The following applications for election have been received. Notice of any objection or other communication respecting the candidates must be sent for submission to the Council prior to Monday, 2nd February.

## AS FELLOWS (10).

DALE: THOMAS LAWRENCE [A., 1907], 11 New Court, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.; Horsefair, Banbury.  
 DIXON-SPAIN: LT.-COL. JOHN EDWARD, O.B.E. [A., 1900], 19 Hanover Square, W.1; 37 Belgrave Road, S.W.1.  
 GOUGH: ARTHUR REUTLINGER [A., 1898], 24 Bridge Street, Bristol; 98 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol.  
 GREGSON: THOMAS SEDGWICK [A., 1902], King's Buildings, Hornby Road, Bombay; Royal Bombay Yacht Club.

HENNINGS: ARTHUR WILLIAM [A., 1888], 34 Victoria Buildings, Manchester; Elm Bank, South Grove, Brooklands, Cheshire.

MATTHEWS: MAJOR BERNARD FRANK, R.E. [A., 1911], Army Headquarters, India; Military Works Branch, Simla.

NICHOLAS: CHARLES [A., 1905], 19 Hanover Square, W.1; Holton, Tadworth, Surrey.

POWERS: ERNEST MARSTON [A., 1909], 51 Standard Bank Chambers, Johannesburg, S. Africa; Cacer-Dun, Sharp Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg.

And the following Licentiates who have passed the Qualifying Examination:—

FRY: Lieut.-Col. PETER GEORGE, C.M.G., D.S.O., 28 Waterloo Street, Weston-super-Mare; Woodford, All Saints' Road, Weston-super-Mare.

SHEPHEARD: THOMAS FATLNER, c/o Shephard & Bowler, Liberty Building, School Lane, Liverpool; 13 South Bark, Oxtou, Cheshire.

## AS ASSOCIATES (73).

ADDISON: JOSEPH [Special War Examination], 9 Church Terrace, Turriff, Aberdeenshire, N.B.

ARMSTRONG: EDWARD WILLIAM [Special War Examination], c/o Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square.

BADCOCK: PAUL [Special War Examination], 8 Woodside, N.W.4.

BARTLEY: ALVA MARTIN [Special War Examination], Ewen Street, Takapuna, Auckland, N. Zealand.

BEATTIE: OSCAR ALEXANDER [Special War Examination], Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia.

BERRY: ARTHUR GILBERT [Special War Examination], 7 London Street, Norwich.

BETHAM: ARTHUR ARCHER [Special War Examination], 39 Bedford Square, W.C.1.

BLOOMFIELD: WILLIAM SWANSON READ [Special War Examination], Gisborne, N. Zealand.

BROAD: GORDON LESLIE [Special War Examination], 18 Meadow Bank, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

CABLE: CHARLES JOHN [Special War Examination], 23 Great Elms Road, Bromley, Kent.

CARR: GERALD MOSMAN, M.B.E. [Special War Exam.], Hiawatha, New South Head Road, Rose Bay, Sydney.

CASHMORE: FRANCIS MILTON [Special War Examination], 18 London Street, W.2.

CHIPMAN: NOEL INGERSOLL [Special War Examination], 45 Lincoln Avenue, Montreal, Canada.

CHRISTIAN: FREDERICK FISHER [Special War Examination], 98 Newry Street, North Fitzroy, Melbourne.

CUNDALL: PHILIP HENRY [Special War Examination], 13 Jesmond Avenue, Hilton Park, Prestwich, Lancs.

DAVIES: DAVID OWEN HARRIS [Final Examination, 1919], "Maengwyn," Knoll Avenue, Swansea.

DAVIES: WILLIAM GEORGE [Special War Examination], 94 Jesmond Avenue, Bradford, Yorks.

DEAR: FRANK TWYDALE [Special War Examination], 9 Hayercroft Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

DRAFFIN: MALCOLM KEITH [Special War Examination], King Edward Avenue, Epsom, Auckland, N. Zealand.

EDGEUMBE: JOHN HAROLD [Special War Examination], Hamilton, Waikato, Auckland, N. Zealand.

FINCH: CLIFFORD HORACE [Special War Examination], Lord Street, Roseville, Sydney, N.S.W.

FORD: THOMAS FRANCIS [Final Examination, 1919], 36 Hanover Park, Peckham, S.E.15.

FRATER: ROBERT [Final Examination, 1919], 7 Bank Street, Greenock, N.B.

GENTRY: EDGAR CHARLES [Final Examination, 1919], c/o Messrs. Grindley & Co., 54 Parliament Street, S.W.

GREENISH: FRANK EGGAR [Special War Examination], Karori, Wellington, N. Zealand.

GRIERSON: HUGH CRESSWELL [Special War Examination], Queen Street, Auckland, N. Zealand.

HAMILTON: ROBERT BEIL [Special War Examination], c/o Architectural Association, 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1.

- HANNAFORD: LEONARD GORDON [*Special War Examination*], 29 Matheson Road, West Kensington, London.
- HARDY: PHILIP [*Special War Examination*], 7745 View Point Crescent, Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Canada.
- HOLBROW: ALFRED ERNST [*Special Final Examination*, 1919], 13 Cowper Road, Hanwell, W.7.
- HUBBARD: PHILIP WADDINGTON, M.A. [*Special War Examination*], 112 Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.
- IRWIN: LEIGHTON FRANCIS [*Special War Examination*], 39 Tavistock Square, W.C.
- JACKMAN: FREDERICK [*Final Examination*, 1919], Yateley Lodge Cottage, Yateley, Hants.
- JEATER: WILLIAM DAVID [*Special War Examination*], "Werona," Woodstock Street, Mayfield, Newcastle, N.S.W.
- JEFFREYS: HAROLD MORTON [*Special War Examination*], Rylston Lodge, London Road, Maldon, Essex.
- JEWELL: HARRY HERBERT [*Special War Examination*], 12 Great James Street, Bedford Row, W.C.
- JONES: OWEN CAMPBELL [*Special War Examination*], Skinner's Hall, 9 Dowgate Hill, E.C.
- LEE: ROBERT ARTHUR [*Special War Examination*], Bank Street, Meadowbank, N.S.W., Australia.
- LISLE: BERTRAM EDWIN [*Special War Examination*], 7 Observatory Road, East Sheen, S.W.14.
- McKENZIE: JOHN CHARLES [*Special War Examination*], 50 Kingscourt Road, Streatham, S.W.16.
- MACLAURIN: ROBERT WILLIAM [*Special Examination*, 1915], P.O. Box 234, Gisborne, N. Zealand.
- McMICHAEL: ALASTAIR MARSHALL, M.A. [*Final Exam.*, 1919], Commercial Bank House, Callander, Perthshire.
- MAISEY: SAMUEL REGINALD [*Special War Examination*], 88 Pitt Street, Sydney, Australia.
- MASSEY: HORACE LOVELL [*Special War Examination*], 9 Gower Street, W.C.1.
- MASTERS: WILLIAM EWART [*Special War Examination*], 3 Leaside Crescent, Golders Green, N.W.
- MELDRUM: PERCY HAYMAN [*Special Examination*, 1915], 34 Cartwright Gardens, W.C.1.
- NATUSCH: STANLEY [*Special War Examination*], 27 Tanza Road, N.W.3.
- NISBET: ALEC [*Special War Examination*], 37 Avenue Terrace, York.
- NOWLAND: RAYMOND CLARE [*Special War Examination*], Ashfield, Sydney, N.S.W.
- ORIE: ARNOLD MOSTYN [*Special War Examination*], Azalea Street, Prospect, Adelaide, South Australia.
- PILDITCH: PHILIP HAROLD [*Special War Examination*], Myrtleberry, West End Avenue, Pinner.
- REID: GORDON STUART [*Special War Examination*], c/o The Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.1.
- REIDY: EDWARD DANIEL [*Special War Examination*], Te Kanga, Kilmarna Avenue, Herne Bay, Auckland, N.Z.
- RHIND: JAMES ELLABY [*Special War Examination*], 6 Victoria Terrace, Inverness.
- RUWALD: CYRIL C. [*Special War Examination*], Palmer Street, Chatswood, Sydney, Australia.
- SALE: FREDERICK [*Special War Examination*], c/o The Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.
- SAVAGE: OLIVER FREDERICK [*Special War Examination*], c/o Messrs. Adams, Little and Wood, Hong Kong.
- SMART: JACK STOKER [*Special War Examination*], "Rob Roy," Middle Street, South Kensington, Sydney, N.S.W.
- SMART: ROY ARCHIBALD [*Special War Examination*], 43 Hawthorn Grove, Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia.
- SOUZA: WALTER EDWARD DE [*Final Examination*, 1919], 20 Woodville Road, Golders Green, N.W.
- STEPHENSON: ARTHUR GEORGE [*Special War Examination*], 21 Kooyong Koot Road, Glenferrie, Melbourne.
- STEVENSON: ROY KENNETH [*Special War Examination*], Mandeville Hall, Clendon Rd., Toorak, Victoria, Aust.
- STODDART: ROBERT WILLIAM [*Special War Examination*], 19 Fairlawn Avenue, Chiswick, W.4.
- TANNER: EDGAR ALLAN DAVEY [*Special War Examination*], 18 Hestercombe Avenue, Munster Road, S.W.6.
- THOMAS: PERCY EDWARD, O.B.E. [*Special War Examination*], 6 & 7 St. John Square, Cardiff.
- THOMAS: STANLEY KNIGHT [*Special War Examination*], Castle View, Usk, Monmouthshire.
- TURNER: DONALD K. [*Special War Examination*], Abbotsford, Sydney, Australia.
- WEBB: KENNETH EDWARD [*Special War Examination*], Kent Road, Rose Bay, Sydney, N.S.W.
- WHITE: JAMES HODGE [*Special War Examination*], Albert Lodge, Albert Place, W.S.
- WILKES: FRANCIS HILTON, B.Arch. [*Special War Examination*], "Hyneham," Brantford, Ontario, Canada.
- WILLIAMSON: JOHN WALLACE [*Special War Examination*], 94 Devizes Road, Salisbury.
- WOODHOUSE: FRANCIS PERCY MARK [*Final Examination*, 1919], Southmead, Wimbledon Park, S.W.
- WYATT: LESLIE HERBERT WILLIAM [*Special War Examination*], 69 Tierney Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.2.

### Books and Pamphlets Received.

Popular Description of Sir John Soane's House, Museum, and Library. Written in 1835, by Mrs. Parvra Holland. Edited from the "Description" of 1835, by Sir John Soane, R.A., by Arthur T. Bolton, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Curator of the Museum. With 8 illustrations. Price 6d. Soane Museum Publications, No. 5. To be obtained only at the Museum.

English Eighteenth-Century Sculptures in Sir John Soane's Museum. By Arthur T. Bolton. With 21 illustrations. Price 2s. Soane Museum Publications, No. 7.

### Prospective Arrangements for General Meetings.

- Jan. 19.—"On Citizenship": Paper by Mr. Halsey Ricardo [F.].  
Award of Prizes and Studentships.
- Feb. 2.—President's Address to Students.  
Presentation of Prizes.
- Feb. 16.—"Education of the Architect": Paper by Paul Waterhouse, F.S.A. [F.].
- March 1.—Election of Royal Gold Medalist.  
Election of Members.
- March 29.—"The Planning of American Departmental Stores": Paper by H. Austen Hall [F.], Godwin Bursar, 1919.
- April 12.—"Architecture in India": Paper by John Begg [F.], Consulting Architect to the Government of India.

### General Meeting (Ordinary), Monday, 19th January

A GENERAL MEETING (ORDINARY) will be held Monday, 19th January, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:

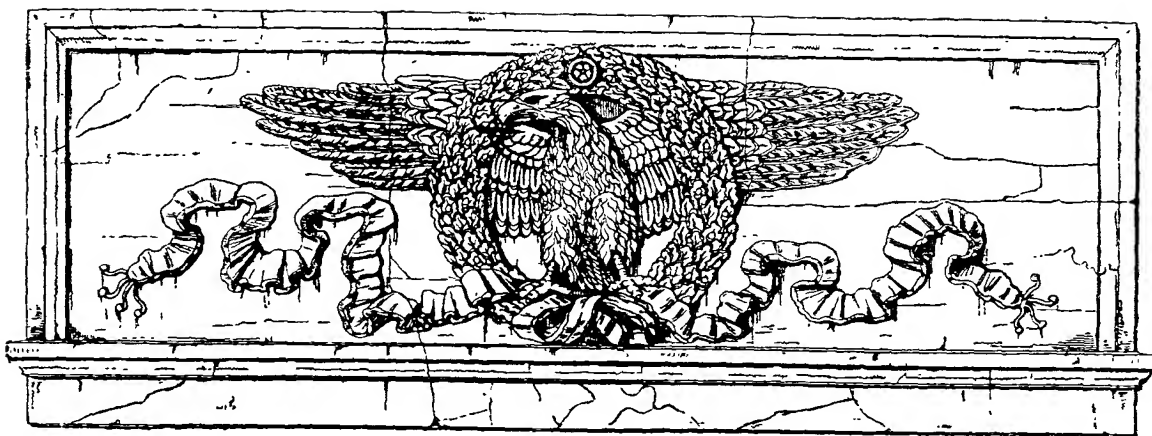
To read the Minutes of the Meeting held 5th January; formally to admit Members and Licentiates attending for the first time since their election.

To read the following Paper:—

#### ON CITIZENSHIP.

By HALSEY RICARDO [F.].

To read the DEED OF AWARD OF PRIZES AND STUDENTSHIPS, 1919-1920, made by the Council in writing under the Common Seal in accordance with By-law 71.



## ON CITIZENSHIP.

By HALSEY RICARDO [F.].

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**W**HEN I received the invitation to read a paper, following up a recent letter in *The Times*, on the duties and responsibilities of citizens, I could not but feel that this—to a body like the Institute of Architects—was attempting to preach to the converted. I had to justify this endeavour by the reflection that architects are—pre-eminently—civic missionaries, and it is well, occasionally, to take stock of our propaganda work and consider how far fresh effort is requisite, and in what direction. The present moment, too, seems a specially propitious time for stocktaking, since so many theories, formulæ, and principles are going to be—or are in process of being—tested from fresh angles of vision and new criteria as to their tendency. One supremely pregnant point of view that has come to the front is on the constitution of the State and the position of the individual in regard to it. We have come to think—thanks to the war—much more of our collective duties: to feel that each individual is no more, and no less, than a contributory cell in the structure of our commonwealth. Unless these cells are in healthy activity the body politic suffers, just as in the human body the co-operation of all the cells is necessary to ensure a healthy physique. The ills that afflict the body have their analogy with the body of the State and of all States the world over. What is fever in the human frame but inflammatory protest of the cells breaking out into actual rebellion? The application of the surgeon's or the assassin's knife is similar to the stealthily prepared war of aggression or revanche: the accidents that occur to one's limbs and members can be matched by the earthquakes, cyclones, and the other immense convulsions of Nature. Cities, too, are mortal and their bones bleach in the desert or are to be found mouldering in the earth like the poor relics who begot them. Cities suffer murder: Carthage was executed: Palmyra, Baalbec, Ctesiphon are as the bones of murdered men, done to death in some out-of-the-way place, and left unburied for Time to reveal their skeletons, and for thieves to assimilate whatever they could find capable of being made useful.

But whilst the cells of the human body can only act instinctively, and renew themselves blindly with, at most, some modicum of memory to guide them, the elements of the body politic are in both a better and a worse case; better because there is will power and an intellect to direct, and worse because there is less singleness of aim and the tension of antagonism. At this moment, however, there is an ideal—almost world-wide—which all the nations are girding themselves towards, an ideal which involves the sympathetic co-operation of every individual, to do his utmost for the general welfare. And the question that presents itself to most citizens is, What can I do—and will any single effort of mine be worth the pains it cost me?

That there should be such questions is a sad verdict on our systems of education. The root trouble seems to me that we have lost our sense of civic pride. We have listened—too easily—to all sorts of condemnations on our cities—from persons who assumed themselves to be superior and whom we accepted at their own valuation—either from modesty, or laziness, or a sense of bewildered shame. These travelled connoisseurs bully the poor untravelled, with avalanches of instances and comparisons which we are unable to question or even detect the unfairness of such arguments.

The first thing to do—to amend this state of things—is to teach our youth how much there is for him to be proud of, and to do this effectively we must ourselves realise the value of the possessions we have inherited. As far as poetry, literature and science are concerned, we architects can co-operate according to our ability, but in the matter of the arts and handicrafts it is incumbent urgently upon us to see that the education given is well directed, and to secure a general consensus as to this direction. If the citizen is to be proud of his city, he must know why.

First, he should know something as to the disposition of the city he inhabits. If the city is London he should have a clear knowledge of the course of the Thames through the city, say from Woolwich up to Teddington. How many bridges cross it on its way; what their direction and what their main function; then the principal arteries of traffic; the main objects of historical interest. There is a vague, uneasy feeling felt by many people that a ground plan is a mysterious hieroglyph which only experts can decipher. These people have no trouble in reading a map, and yet a map is only a ground plan. In every London Board school of the elementary class there should be a large map, clear of much detail, showing these features, and boys and girls should be taught to read this map and to pass a pretty stiff examination on it before leaving school. This should be followed up by explanations, partly geographical but mainly historical, as to how these roads, and monuments, came about, and the invaluable aid of heraldry should be pressed into service, for the further emphasis of the civic history—starting from the time of Edward the Confessor to the time of George V, showing the growth and change of dynasties—when the fleur-de-lys and the white horse came and faded from the Royal Arms. Each child should know the coat-of-arms of his parish, the significance of the crosses on the Union Jack, and the impropriety of decorating his house or balcony with the Royal Standard. Through the appeal to the eye one can remember such episodes and their sequence throughout one's life: whereas there are few who can retain, in after years, such fugitive abstractions as dates. The powers of observation need quickening: a good school test would be to ask each child what was in the shops he passed on his way to school, especially what was on the fishmongers', greengrocers', fruiterers' and florists' stalls. He should be able to distinguish, by a passing glance, between a crayfish and a lobster, between a bundle of chicory and one of celery, between a quince and a pear, between an aster and a chrysanthemum. From such stepping-stones as these he might get to observe the terrible disorder in our streets, and wonder whether such litter was really inevitable. It isn't really. We have allowed it to become prevalent out of sheer laziness, shirking our obvious duty. That this is so is shown at once when we compare the world outside our front door and the home within. No one will for a moment put up with the dirt and disorder in their own houses; there is an accepted moral obligation that the rooms and passages shall be sweet and clean, although our standard of purity involves us in heavy and incessant labour and expense.

Why should there be two moralities? The out-of-doors so different from the in-doors? This careless disregard of what is due not only to oneself but to one's neighbour has had the evil consequence of permitting two standards of human dealing—the one as “man to man,” the other as a “business transaction.” Commercial morality, “*careat emptor*,” “the devil take the hindmost,” and such-like phrases and practices, are not those we employ and act on within our own doors. But take our “offices” in the streets for illustration. Behind the imposing façade are the working cells, inhuman in their baldness, ghastly in their lighting, dreary, savage in their neglect to provide anything that the eye can comfortably rest on. Our buildings, commercial as well as domestic, are the index, at any



period, of our mode of living and our outlook on life. Architecture reflects in the most sensitive way the ideals in vogue at the time of construction, and its testimony is beyond question. Buildings are raised with no preconceived notions of politics, in the current sense; they embody the aims of the community in the town halls, museums, libraries, Council schools and the like; the big mercantile companies, the railway shareholders, and the individual; and are flagrantly illustrative of these aims at a glance. There is no disputing their evidence, it is absolutely without any conscious bias. The buildings frankly disclose the sentiments of their founders, and their character reveals the standard of taste and craftsmanship available.

No one scatters the torn fragments of his correspondence over the carpet, and yet look at the pavements and gutters where the omnibus stops. It would be a simple matter to have a box at the foot of the omnibus steps into which the passenger, at his exit, could drop his ticket. The tickets themselves could be pulped and re-used. I have urged the adoption of this on the omnibus company; they arranged for boxes to be fitted to a number of their buses on a few routes, with an accompanying notice requesting passengers before leaving the bus to place their tickets therein, but as the public ignored them, they were removed. In fairness to the public, I maintain that the experiment was not tried resolutely enough, not persisted in sufficiently until the public had grasped the intention and familiarised itself with its object.

The need for education in civic decency is great, as this example shows. Disorder on a larger scale is to be seen in our street buildings. Look down Holborn or up Oxford Street, stand at Oxford Circus and view the prospect with a fresh, unbiassed eye. Give a glance down Regent Street as well. To us architects, who are accustomed to note and criticise, such a survey appears lamentable. I am not holding a brief for the strict uniformity that one gets in residential quarters such as Gower Street, but I think you will all agree with me that the welter, east, south and west, is not decent. Some years ago the London County Council, conscious of the discordant result of individual architectural display, tried to formulate a scheme for the buildings on either side of Kingsway. Individualism wrecked it. It may be that uniformity was there carried to the breaking point, and in the absence of any civic pride the financial aspect was allowed to settle the matter. Even Mr. Norman Shaw's scheme for the Quadrant and Piccadilly has been defeated, because there was no public opinion strong enough to override individual interests. It is this public opinion that we must educate, strengthen and spur to action. Without it we are helpless and impotent. Examples here and there hardly affect the question though these sporadic attempts are not to be discouraged.

What can be done by education in creating a civic sense and the will to secure its mastery we have learnt—to our cost—in grappling with the German nation. It has taken, in Germany, only two generations to infuse, by means of the pulpit, the schools and universities, a sentiment strong enough to attempt to seize world-power, and though mercifully it has failed, its failure is due to the inhuman basis on which it was built. The idol was grandiose enough—in many ways it was greatly admirable—actually beautiful; there was far-seeing statesmanship about it, and a fine endurance of hard living to get the shaping of it answerable to the ideal, but its feet were of clay, and the other nations have been able to overthrow it. But for us there is the lesson, and the encouragement. If the Germans, in so short a time, could create a national emotion, so universal, in their Empire, and so strong, we, taught by their practice, and claiming to be as public-spirited as ever they could be, may take up the task of creating in our populace the fine sense of citizenship and carry it into actual deed. There is much to be done, and though we must all put our hands to spade and drill, prepare the ground, and sow the seed, it is to the youth of England we must look for the outcome. "The ideal of the perfect citizen involves the co-operation of every member of the State towards realising ever some measure of this ideal; and the means to be employed must, some of them at least, be within the grasp of the least of these members, and within their willing acceptance." Whilst the ideal itself must be lofty—noble beyond question—we must begin the ascent by easy steps, manageable by the youngest of us. The lessons taught in

school must point to the summit, but the actual things to be done can be of everyday occurrence and comparatively humble in scope. Think how much we shall have achieved when we have cleared our city of the unsightly and dirty obstructions that so constantly meet us: the squalor of our railway stations, the careless arrangements and noisy shunting of our trains, the ill-placed goods yards, the untidy coal dumps; the gratuitous noises in our streets, cars hooting, chains rattling, chimneys prodigally smoking, our atmosphere, from selfish or ignorant contempt of science and management, corroding our buildings, our books and our furniture. These clearances are necessary for our self-respect. Our duty towards our neighbour is no less important. "Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful" is an aphorism of Wm. Morris's that goes to the root of things. It is incumbent on the good citizen to be careful of his expenditure, to see that his money goes to the employment of serviceable labour. Behind the article purchased stands the man, or the group of men. We have to consider what his toil means to him, and to ensure, as far as may be, that his toil shall be a pleasure, not a weariness to him. We must set our face against the accumulation of rubbish, the purchase of rubbish, the manufacture of rubbish. What a wholesale gaol delivery this would mean! We should require expert instruction as to what is rubbish, what is the value (if any) of shoddy, what things may be legitimately made for ephemeral purposes, and what should be made to endure. Speaking to architects and craftsmen, I need not enlarge on this point. They know the value of the things they produce, and what should be their treatment. But the public in general has not this knowledge, and has not been taught to acquire it, and the teaching of the care and responsibility in spending is of first importance. Apart from the producer's side of the question, there is the home side, if one may so express it. If all our houses were cleared of the rubbish within their walls, the mere saving in the labour of dusting and cleaning would be enormous; and besides this home labour there is the labour of the retailer in his shop, who has to cajole his customer into purchasing what he doesn't want, what is the subject of a passing fancy; the retailer has to create a demand to relieve him of his supply. The pulpit should take in hand the ethics of production; manufactures don't grow; they are made by human beings, who see very clearly the sense, or the nonsense, of their labour and are content or indignant in consequence. The science of economics is taught, so far as the economics of quantity are concerned; there should be the parallel teaching of the economics of quality. Besides the pulpits, the universities and the schools, there is that powerful voice—the Press. What the Press might effect is almost incalculable, and what little it does to arouse popular feeling in the direction of order, decency, the sense of duty and responsibility, of patriotism and civic pride, is in melancholy contrast to what it might do. Partly this want is due to ignorance—ignorance of the matter in hand—but still more ignorance of the strong latent feeling there is in the minds of every one who has given a moment's thought to these aspects of duty.

As regards our own particular sphere of action—building—we want a new type of architectural literature and criticism. Architecture should be a developing structural art, mainly concerned with the building and improvement of cities, and the provision of the structures needed in civilization. But our literary pundits seem incapable of realizing that architecture is a living art, and measure their admiration of any fresh work by its approximation to masterpieces of the past times, raised under entirely different conditions for entirely different purposes. Architecture, like all other living things, is progressive—responsive to the progress of the age, to the scientific discoveries of materials and methods, the properties of sound and of gases, and criticism of modern architecture should be impregnated with this knowledge if it is to discuss the subject to any purpose. The study of architecture is to be approached in a scientific and practical rather than in an archæological spirit. Study of old work is essential, since old work is the embodiment and outcome of a long train of experiment and experience: one has not only to analyse the past methods of construction, the choice of materials, but one must master also the social conditions of the time, since these had a vital bearing on the building. But though we architects recognise the truth of these statements the oracle in the Press is unaffected—

refuses to be disturbed from his easier point of view and proclaims his likes and his judgments ex cathedra; but the chair is his easy chair, a lay one—not the Bishop's throne of authority. It is so difficult to gauge a new utterance unless we have some basic principles to measure with, and one's desire is that the Institute should become a centre for recording experience and suggesting ideas. There is an immense field awaiting development: the solution of the problems that meet us at every turn—the railway station, the shop, even the furniture of the street. If the verdict is allowed to lapse, or remain, in the hand of the amateur authority, either in the Press or in the street, it is not likely to be a helpful one. Novelty baffles the ordinary reviewer; it is generally the prudent thing to express dislike: the odds are probably against its being excellent—so many things have been incautiously praised by the more gushing prints that one has to walk warily. Unfortunately these ill-appraised verdicts have a way of getting accepted, almost joyfully by the jealous-minded, and they become stereotyped: they find their way into the text-books: they become the received canons of taste: the neophyte accepts them in good faith; and it takes him the rest of his life to get honestly quit of them. If this takes place amongst us, the experts, it takes place terribly far more amongst the lay public. And the lay public is not indifferent: it is out for being instructed: it asks for principles to walk by; in the matter of "taste" it is self-deprecatory: it doesn't know what it likes, though it sometimes seeks for that illusion: it is puzzled even when the verdicts are unanimous, because it can't follow the process by which they have been reached: and when the verdicts—as they often are—are conflicting, it loses heart. The matter is not for such as they: they must go their own way unilluminated, with a sense of the reproach of inferiority, most unfairly bestowed. It is idle to call upon the citizens for pride in their city if we are not agreed as to what should justify that emotion. It is obvious we cannot teach our children this fine sense of *noblesse oblige* if we are without conviction ourselves. Such negative attitude is wantonly preposterous. A city like London, of unparalleled size and magnificence—the scene of so much history, so much emotion, so much piety—not be proud of it! It can only be in the plenitude of his ignorance that a man fails to be stirred by this wonderful mass of masonry and humanity. If we allow ourselves openly to admit our pride it will mean also that we care for the state of the city: we recognise ourselves as the inheritors of this magnificent dowry, and the guardians of it for posterity. Naturally, we would wish to leave it somewhat better than when we received it: to impart to it some added touches of noble feeling, some records worthy of the tension of feeling we have gone through. Each age has its "baptism of fire": we see the marks of it in our streets: the true splendour of our city is the evidence of humanity upon it, the humanity of the life that was, as well as the life that is. The more we know of the cities we dwell in—of the events that have taken place there, the hopes and fears and sorrows that they have enshrined—the more sacred they become to us. And with this recognition of what we owe to ourselves, and our forefathers, should come the determination to abolish the relics of their neglect. Living cities must grow and change as they grow: new forces come upon the scene, new standards of living and of trade, new conceptions of time and distance. The expansion of a city is a matter of supreme importance—a matter of statesmanship, of forethought: a matter not for ourselves only, but for those that are to come after us. And it matters extremely the attitude we take towards these extensions. They have to be conceived on fine lines as well as practical: without imagination, without inspiration, our labour is worse than in vain. Posterity will sigh over the opportunities we failed to recognise—will deplore the poverty of spirit in our projects, the hand-to-mouth policy that has made subsequent improvement well-nigh impossible. We are not to be faint-hearted citizens, apologetic for the places we live in, but stout-hearted, recognising the real worth and magnificence of our cities, determined with a just pride that they shall support our claims for their worth without fear and without reproach. I must apologise—in addressing brother architects—for the excess of platitudes in my address, but as I said at the outset, you play the part of missionaries, and through you a wider public is reached. There is a large fund of latent good fellowship to be tapped—the Boy Scout movement is evidence of what can be done—if we

appeal to the emotions. It is a common failing to deprecate sentiment, but sentiment is the main-spring of life. It is on the wave of enthusiasm that great actions are borne to fruition, and the famous names of heroes and artists are but the foam on the crest of this wave; they are upborne by it and their actions rendered conspicuous and memorable by the enthusiastic backing of their contemporaries.

It is not, I think, fantastic to desire a great wave of communal feeling at the present moment, the gift to us of the Great War, and it is our privilege to enforce it, to guide it, to see that it is not allowed to ebb from want of recognition and encouragement.

## DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. E. GUY DAWBER, *Vice-President*, it the Chair.

Mr. C. STANLEY PEACH [*F.*].—I have much pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Halsey Ricardo for his most opportune and instructive discourse. I think we should also heartily congratulate him and those concerned with him who, appreciating the changed social outlook and immense importance of citizenship in the emergency of reconstruction which confronts us, have brought forward by a sessional paper a social subject for consideration by a technical, professional and public organisation like the R.I.B.A. Their action in inviting us to apply points of this burning question of the moment to our own case is characteristic of the progressive thought of to-day, and is evidence that the Council entrusted with the management of Institute affairs fully realise that our collective civic duty—as a chartered body charged with the advancement of architecture—is not only to educate ourselves but also to direct public opinion and educate the community in the ethical attributes of our great science and art as well as in its less important æsthetic and economic features. I submit, Sir, that citizenship is a religious question which greatly concerns us. Architects, of course, have always recognised that civil architecture has a religious foundation as much as ecclesiastical, and that architects are therefore priests and teachers of religious economy, and its practice is part of our duty as citizens. It is not, however, generally understood or appreciated, in spite of the fact that architecture has ever been so closely interwoven in the fabric of religious economy as to be almost the warp on the woof of that subject. Hence leading and teaching citizenship (mainly by example in our works) is as much a part of architectural practice as the design and construction of the buildings themselves. Owing to misunderstanding of this point many, before hearing the paper read, may have been surprised that it should have been proposed, but having heard now wonder why such a paper has not been previously included in the programme of each session, and why the duties of citizenship do not form part of the curriculum of architectural training.

The reception accorded to the paper is one among many instances—noticeable at the present time—of the new attitude of mind and diffusion of a new philosophy which stirs mankind to-day—a new philosophy

to which Mr. Halsey Ricardo referred—which, without detracting from the value of what he said, may be condensed and memorised in a sentence: Run religion on business lines; conduct business on a religious basis. That is my understanding of the true principles of citizenship and association: it is the very antithesis of former application of principles to practice and of the Zoological Gardens system which has hitherto been the dominant method acted upon by man in his dealings with mankind.

I suggest, Sir, that our collective and personal civic duty is to incarnate the principles of this new philosophy in action by association, unity and close concentration on the objects for which this Institute exists—the advancement of architecture on collective catholic lines to the intellectual and physical benefit of the community. That, Sir, is the unity to which we aspire—the unity so ardently desired, so long postponed, but which all to-day hope we may yet shortly reach, for unity, Sir, is sound architectural religion and business. It is only by unity—the disciplined thought of many minds centring on a common and definite objective—that we can direct our efforts and our energy on the missionary work which Mr. Halsey Ricardo pointed out is one of the civic responsibilities of the profession of architecture. It is trade union principle, but the negation of its application. Only in association can we evolve a true ideal, develop a religious and therefore a great civic aim, establish a faith or understand it ourselves. Individually we rapidly confound religion with creed, dogma or doctrine, and in consequence soon come to use the instruments of the present solely to solve problems which are past, and seek to revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish which are burnt. We copy, but we cannot originate. Architecture and citizenship, science and art, are really things which progress and act conjointly. They are the two wings by which we can fly and give our visions movement and substantiality. If in either case we attempt to use one without the other we flop, but never fly. To attempt it is to expect the triumph of hope over experience. As architects and citizens, as men of science and of imagination (for art is only the application of imagination to knowledge or, as Plato says, to remembrance), our faith is in architecture as an instrument in the progress and as a servant of man-

kind. Our creed is that architecture, through unity and association of its professors, is not only capable, but is destined to render inestimable service in mitigating both the physical and moral ills which flesh is heir to, and in creating an environment which will elevate and educate man ethically and economically in spite of himself.

The means to this end are in our own hands, and by performing our duty as citizens and encouraging association generally and promoting unity in our own ranks in particular, we can set an example, and show a contrast of the economic value of cohesion with the waste and strife of disunion and destruction, which will exert a profound influence on the future. In so doing, Sir, we shall, after all, only be carrying out our civic duty as members of a public institution, which this Institute really is, and, applying to the civic problem of to-day the principles on which it was founded and of architecture itself, design with beauty, build with truth. These same basic principles determine also the health and prosperity of the community. The extension by us of them to the public outside our cages is the justification for the exceptional food and other privileges that have been conferred on us by our Charters. As citizens we must never forget the alphabetical abbreviations which are the prizes of our examinations and the distinction of our members are bestowed to enable us to help the community and are not crutches to help us individually as they have sometimes been regarded in the past. The purpose of our meetings is to refresh our memories of these obligations—to assist us as architects and citizens in the interchange of thought and experience, whereby we may excite and vitalise those sparks of ideas which exist in many minds, and which by association can be united in flame and light economically serviceable to mankind, but which in the detached individual expire one by one as the ashes of solitary sterile genius smoulder away. Men in association are an application of the principle of a central station, in which many engines, synchronised and acting together, generate a current of general utility. The individual engine can do no more than provide luxury for a few, and one individual unsynchronised engine can short-circuit the whole station and break down the whole public supply. This is just one instance of what Mr. Halsey Ricardo pointed out, that the natural laws of physical forces are identical with those of the moral and intellectual, and differ only in degree, in intensity and in the manner and point of application. They are the invisible sub-sensible powers which give movement to matter which, divorced from them, is inert. Friction of ideas is not divorce, destruction or strife, but the natural means whereby putrefaction produces progress. Surrounded by apparent putrefaction of civilisation, we discern that in it lies enormous potentiality of progress, which it is our duty as citizens to foster and point out. By friction of our individual ideas through unity and association we qualify for our civic duty as priests, leaders and teachers. Without it, we remain

practitioners only of a dead and archæological faith. There is a citizenship for a man's self which is often confounded with self-interest, although it has nothing in common therewith. It indeed and indirectly confers personal benefit, because the good of the individual arises, and can only arise, from the well-being and prosperity, ethical and economic, of the whole community. Such citizenship for a man's self has no element of self-seeking. It is based on comradeship and public spirit as long as its motive, its ideals, its aims are the good of a cause common to all. It is epitomised in the axiomatic truth, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all other things shall be added unto you." We can only do that by unity and association—architectural citizenship in its true intent and meaning. I submit, Sir, that it is a sound business proposition on a religious basis, for association can achieve that to which individuality can never attain. As the seer saith :—

*Fools feed on their own flesh.*

The genius of the individual, his capacity for accomplishment, the influence he can exert, can never extend beyond the limits of a chain revolving round the column of an Ego to which he is attached. He ever perambulates a spiral curve, and in his course winds the chain round the column and himself until he quickly reaches his limitation and furnishes a demonstration of the physical and moral truth, *Ex nihil, nihil fit*. Individuality is seeking truth each in his own little world. Unity, association, citizenship, is seeking truth in the great common world. The individual finds sterility—one cannot breed alone. Association is the only way to fertility, growth, progress. The individual necessarily peeps at the human problem through an aperture. On the one side he sees the great sun of principle, and traces its ray through a perforation in his own opacity and sees the image, a bright spot on a screen beyond. As it is bright and round and proportionate to the sun, he thinks he has the true image. It is only by association that he learns the law of apertures and that what he sees is an inverted image, and, by friction of other minds, that it is not a mere bright spot but a centre of heat in brisk and violent movement and of dual azimuth. Association breaks down the apertures into a wide opening, and by letting in the full light of the sun enables us to put our accepted principles into true and correct practice. The false conceptions of individualism are mainly responsible for that damnable heresy to our faith and creed that if a government, a company, or individual desire to use a piece of our earth for the purposes of individual profit they are justified in committing any outrage on the community. In giving effect to it they point, perhaps, to the beauty of the gem: they entirely disregard its juxtaposition to other gems or the setting of the whole. That heresy is the root evil of our discontent. It is the application of the principle of the Zoological Gardens which it is the mission of the new philosophy not to convert into Mappin Terraces but to utterly destroy. It accounts for the discordant

architecture to which Mr. Halsey Ricardo refers, and its manifestation is seen in our streets which are shop windows for the display of samples. It has been responsible not only for the affliction of the world war but also for the ills of our own little world. It is the main reason that in every walk of life there are more professors than there is preferment. Mr. Ricardo has suggested that the world war has created a new attitude of mind and a wider point of view of the human problem. From what he has said I draw the deduction that in the world war and all that it demonstrates we have the lever of Archimedes. I infer that it is our civic duty, as priests, leaders and teachers of a great faith, to provide its fulcrum by education, and by association, unity and application of our principles in practice to evolve an aim and an ideal which will supply the power to that lever to move the world. As Mr. Ricardo has pointed the way and suggested such thoughts to us, I feel sure that we shall all unite in offering him our grateful thanks for the help he has given us, and which we shall one and all so greatly need in the labours towards unity and citizenship which lie immediately before us.

Professor W. R. LETHABY [F.], in seconding the vote of thanks, said: I agree profoundly with Mr. Ricardo's delightful paper, and would like to comment on it from beginning to end. It is especially important that something should be done in schools to teach children observation. We are none of us taught observation, all we are taught is to read print. Observation and kindred faculties have been allowed to lapse into disuse. I remember William Morris saying, at least thirty years ago, that in course of time people's eyes would drop out, like the eyes of fishes inhabiting the great ocean depths, because, having no use for their eyes they eventually ceased to function. We do not notice the untidy streets; we do not notice the horrible black dreariness of the railway stations; we come into London every morning, and the disorder and blank horror, the slaps in the face we get, are very real: but we take it as more or less natural to London: we accept it. Yet even a limited amount of travel shows that that kind of thing is not universal. It was only a very mild journey which disturbed me, thirty or thirty-five years ago. The most wonderful revelation I had was when I visited what I thought would prove to be a semi-barbaric town—Buda-Pesth. Here I seemed to step into modern civilisation: a town with clean streets, a brilliant tram-car service, and things to eat at every corner. Coming back to London at that date, I felt we were not in the forefront of this kind of civilisation. And, being a very proud creature—I would fain be wholly proud of my own country, as I am in certain phases of it—that was to me a grievous disillusionment.

Major HARRY BARNES, M.P. [F.], said: Mr. Ricardo, I think, has shown a very sound instinct in bringing a subject like this before architects, and the Institute has shown sound instinct in giving architects the opportunity of hearing the paper. I am sure of

this, there can be no great architecture unless there is great citizenship. And I am equally sure of this; there would be no great citizenship which did not produce great architecture. The Greeks, I think, divided people into two classes: there were citizens, and there were idiots—people who cared for their cities and people who did not. If we here could get that connotation into our minds, it might lead to a growth of civic interest. After all, the city is the great sphere of the architect: when we think of the past we think of it entirely in terms of cities—Damascus, Tyre, Sidon, Jerusalem, Carthage. The greatest and most fruitful mind known to us, Shakespeare, was attracted by nothing so much as by the wonderful group of Italian cities—Venice, Padua, Rome, Verona. It is in places like those, not only Italian but also the great North German cities, that one realises the intimate connection there is between the common pursuits of life and great architectural productions. For all these places were not simply notable for their buildings, but as great centres of commerce and trade. One wonders whether, in the poetic imagination of the future Manchester, Liverpool and Sheffield will remain as these places do in our memories: and in so reflecting we get some sort of measure of our failure to realise in our civic life in this country the great opportunities we have had. But I believe it to be true that we cannot have great cities and great citizenship unless we get rid of a good deal of our individualism. After all, nobody can be a good citizen without a sense of communal life, without a sense that in the gathering of peoples amongst whom he lives there is something to which he is inseparably linked, some sort of almost conscious life of which he is part. And I do not think that will come unless the citizen not only feels he is part of the city, but has the feeling that the city regards him as part of itself. Nothing wiser has been said this evening than was said by Mr. Ricardo as to the teaching of children. Education, of course, is at the bottom of all this, and we are not going to get great citizenship until the whole idea of education is radically changed. Probably a great deal of the trouble of the present day is due to the fact that children, particularly the children of the poor, have been neglected, have had no education, and yet out of that class have come, at all events in recent times, the wealthiest of our people. Nothing appears to be so great a help in acquiring money as the lack of education: and these children, neglected in early days ultimately become our clients and patrons. And it cannot be wondered at if they do not value some of the things which we think are worthy. We have to recognise the immense part that communal life plays in building up citizenship. Take the City of London—I mean the old City of London. If one removed from that place the buildings which stand for the corporate life of the past, what would be left? If we take away the churches, and the remains of monastic buildings, the Temple, and the buildings of the City Companies,

there would not be much left that would be worth visiting or seeing. And that is linked up with what Mr. Ricardo said about the shops. There is a great field for education there, in the observation of the contents of shops. In the matter of window-dressing, there is a great scope in shops for presenting form and colour. The greengrocer's shop, for instance, may be one of the most beautiful objects if it is properly dressed. So I feel that even the most critical person cannot say that citizenship is at all divorced from what it is the main object of this Institute to promote. Great cities, I think, can only be built by great dreamers, and who should be the dreamer but the architect, who but the young architect, as he goes about the great City, longing for the opportunity which will enable him to leave behind something that can mark his age, as has the work of his predecessors. I seldom pass over Westminster Bridge without thinking of that sonnet of Wordsworth in which he says.

*This City now doth like a garment wear  
The beauty of the morning*

and I wonder whether that sonnet would have been written if he had stood on the present bridge and seen the great gasometer rising at the back of Lambeth Palace. One feels that, at all events in that respect, we in London have not advanced towards a great civic conception.

Mr. RAYMOND UNWIN [F.]: It gives me great pleasure to support the vote of thanks to Mr. Ricardo. We owe him very much in the past for his suggestions regarding citizenship and the duties of citizens and the functions of the architect in relation thereto. He suggests that, as a result of the war, we shall have a great revival of the communal spirit. I hope that is so. One thing which may possibly come as a result of the war is that the prominence of purely national feeling may die down and allow of greater emphasis on the city. What we have been suffering from to some extent has been the amount of emphasis which has been thrown on units which are too great for us to have any really intimate touch with. If we were to think in detail less about our Empire and more about our cities we should all live more wholesome lives. I hope that in the future, as a result of the war, empires will compete less with one another than they have done in the past century, and that we shall be more content to give attention to the development of our city unit, which is certainly more manageable, and on which we can exert a greater influence and enjoy a greater fellowship with the other members of it. To have a really healthy life the units must be small enough for the members to know one another. London probably suffers from being a huge agglomeration of people without sufficient organisation. It would, I believe, be more wholesome if it were divided up into more districts in which there was local sense of patriotism and more linking together of the people living there. The architect has a very special function to perform in the community: nobody else is trained in quite the same way to look at problems, to absorb

their different aspects, and then try to give them form and design. That is an essential function in local politics, in social life, which the architect can give, and ought to give, more liberally than he has given to the local life in the past. We are in a peculiar position, if only we would realise it, to act, to some extent, as a solvent of those great labour problems which are now before the country. We know something about the real pleasure of creative labour, the strenuous work which it induces, and we are in a position to understand the objection of the workman to some forms of piece-work. We know we would not like to turn designs out at so much a thousand. We ought to realise the feeling of the man who says he wants to have something human in his labour, and we ought to know that it is not all evil that he resists some of the forms of speeding up labour that are suggested. But through ignorance, he goes to the other extreme, and instead of trying to do as much good work as he can in the day, he tries to think how little he can do, which is an equally great mistake. We ought to be in a position to appreciate the real point of view which lies at the back of these vague struggles of labour to get more human life, more human touch, into their work. We ought to know that the greatest pleasure in life is real labour, in which we have some creative opportunity and can derive some satisfaction from what we find at the end of it. In those ways I think Mr. Ricardo has put before us a very interesting side of our work, a side which architects have not thought nearly enough about, or realised enough—the great importance of actual intimate contact with the life of the community to whose material needs they minister, in order that they may be able to give adequate expression to the best of that life. I think they have the happiest existence of most men in modern times: they are able to steer a course which does not drive them to make money by the mere mechanical repetition of some simple act. The architect has an opportunity of carrying out work which is far more interesting and far more fascinating: he has the opportunity, and he has the obligation, to bring the whole training of his mind, the whole power that he has acquired, on to a new problem day by day, to create something out of it and see it grow into existence. That, I think, produces one of the greatest pleasures in life, and the more that pleasure can be extended and brought into the work of other people, the more will all work rest upon a thoroughly wholesome basis again.

Mr. W. J. H. LEVERTON, *Licentiate*, referring to a remark by a previous speaker that they should be priests in architecture, observed that what they required were the services of a Good Samaritan to save them from the frequent changes of fashion in architecture. About a generation ago the Gothic revival was at its height. Then came the Queen Anne revival. Then, as they were settling down to a quiet type of Renaissance the Néo-Grec came along and upset everything. What they really wanted was a



League of Architects, consisting of men who would work together for some time on the same lines. They would never get steady progress until they stopped this flirting with fashions.

Captain H. LYON THOMPSON, formerly Mayor of Westminster: As a visitor here and as one of the general public I should like to thank Mr. Ricardo for his delightful address. Quite apart from its subject-matter, the form in which it is cast would always make it a pleasure to hear such a collection of thoughts. His opening remarks came to me with sharp force, because only this morning I was saying to our cleansing Surveyor that I wished I had an opportunity of showing a gathering of school children the result of tearing up a single letter and throwing it into the street, and seeing how long it would take a man to sweep it up. If people would realise that, at the present cost of labour and the pace at which it is done, a very small amount of misplaced matter means a costly proceeding, it would be a good thing. And it must be borne in mind that the cleaner you get a street the more the dirt there is shows. If a street is kept fairly dirty it does not matter very much what happens to it, but when once you have arrived at a certain standard of cleanliness half a visiting card can be seen a quarter of a mile off. I think the lecturer is right when he says that if we are to effect progress we must begin with the young, and teach them what their duties are. But who are to teach them? The teachers do not know: they have never studied the matter, and unless we give them a lead it will be impossible. The Boy Scouts is an excellent movement and they have been taught to do all sorts of things: they have done remarkable things, which have astonished me. But on one occasion I was asked to go and say a few words to Boy Scouts at Marylebone. We had had a lecture on Persia, and I was requested to ask them a few questions on the matter, which I very cautiously did, and they gave prompt and exact replies. Then I thought I would put a question of my own. I said: "Can any of you tell me the name of the borough which lies immediately to the West of Marylebone?" In the first place, I do not think any of them knew which was the West, though they could probably find it at night by the stars if they were in the middle of Salisbury Plain. They did not know in which direction Edgware Road went. There was much discussion between them on my question, and apparently no one knew. Then a small girl, who was unconnected with the Scouts, said "Paddington, Sir," and the Scouts blushed collectively as a troop. On another occasion, I remember, I was at a delightful Middlesex village, when the Boy Scouts came through, with their band, and performed all sorts of evolutions. I thought I would test their local knowledge, and I asked them to name the stream which ran through the village. Evidently they had not heard of it, but the Captain politely offered to go to the Post Office and enquire for me! I think one of the reasons of the squalor of London is the base-

ment life. No continental city, I think, ever gets as squalid-looking as London, and I think it is due to the life of the basement and its appurtenances: those dismal, damp, stuffy passages, with obsolete fire-grates and lack of ventilation. This has a most depressing effect, and I am glad to see that it is disappearing, because underground life was never intended for man or woman. I agree with some of the speakers that many of the German towns, for cleanliness and alertness, can beat us any day: there are careful directions for passengers, and many minor details. We have not to go wandering about to find the name of the street; in many German towns there is a separate post to each street, with two angle plates showing the name. Here there has been some improvement in that particular, but it is still too much of a rarity. If one result of the reading of this paper will be to induce some public-spirited person to write a hand-book and call it "The Young Citizen's Hand-book," for the use of schools, telling children their simple elementary duties with regard to the community, it would be most useful. It might have a prefix for each borough of London, giving some brief historical account of that borough, its boundaries, and a map, and it could be made the subject of an annual prize in the schools. The rest of the book might very well be uniform for every part of London. It could detail its constitution, what to do in case of accident and fire, how to keep the place clean, what to do in regard to the removal of rubbish, and so on. They should be told that the dust-bin is not an abode of disease and death, but that, if properly looked after, it is a good friend. There is no reason why a dust-bin should not be kept as spotless as a dairy vessel; and, incidentally, that would have the advantage of prolonging the life of the dust-bin, and lightening the labours of the dustman. But the subject is so vast that one might discourse on it not only this evening but for several evenings.

Sir AMBROSE POYNTER, Bart. [F.]: I would like to add one word to what has been said, first to express the very great pleasure it has been to listen to Mr. Ricardo. It is a great many years since I last had that pleasure: it was one evening at the Art Workers' Guild, when he read a paper on "Colour," which was received with great acclamation. It is a great pleasure to find, after all these years, that he speaks with the same energy, enthusiasm and originality. Most of the previous speakers have said what I would have liked to have said, but there are one or two points I might touch on. When we have an idea to push—and most of us are propagandists of some kind or other—we cannot help thinking how nice it was for the German Empire that in two generations they were able to push their ideas throughout the whole country. I can hardly imagine a country with our form of government doing that, or that we should like it, however desirable it may be. We agree it is desirable that a certain amount of civic knowledge should be taught to children in schools, and I heartily

agree, in that sense, with the speaker who said it is a matter of religion. But I think such a proposal in this country is likely to meet with the same fate as befel the teaching of religion in schools, it would become a matter of sectarianism and would become the prey of party politics, so that the teaching will probably never take place at all. I think it would be great if we could make people see that, as man is said to be the image of God, so man makes a town in his own image, and that when we are looking at London we are looking at our own face. I can only trust it hides a good heart behind it. I hope Mr. Ricardo will yet be successful in getting the Omnibus Companies to adopt his idea—he said they did not give it a fair trial before. I would, personally, persuade him to advocate one small reform which has occurred to myself. In my dismal walks round London on Sunday afternoon, I find that is a great day for people to go through the miles of streets, yet all the shop windows are shuttered. I regard the shop window as the poor man's picture-gallery: he takes a great interest in shop windows, and looks at them with pleasure, and I wish some arrangement could be made for the keeping shop windows open to view on Sundays. I have had an idea, as people cannot be got to the museums, of bringing the museums to the people by exhibiting some of their treasures in shop windows: they would attract enormous numbers among those who had never been to a picture-gallery or a museum in their lives.

A LADY VISITOR asked to hear something about the relationship of citizenship to town-planning. Much had been said in praise of Germany, and she would like to hear something in praise of our own town-planning.

Mr. RAYMOND UNWIN, rising at the instance of the Chairman, said that it seemed to him that most of Mr. Ricardo's paper had to do with citizenship and town-planning, though town-planning was not specifically mentioned. By town-planning was meant bringing order, arrangement and design into our towns, and Mr. Ricardo implied that citizenship had very definite reference to that. Town-planning, if it is to be any good at all, must be the expression of and the means of finding a wholesome outlet for, a healthy life in the town, and that is the whole subject. Technical details, such as the width of streets, heights of houses, open spaces, etc., was another matter. But the whole spirit of citizenship should be to make the town a convenient and comely place for its citizens to dwell in, to inspire affection in the community, and lead them to take care of the town, and wish to beautify it.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. E. GUY DAWBER): It is very pleasant to welcome Mr. Ricardo back into this room and to hear one of his delightful papers. It is not so many years ago that he gave us his charming paper on the Villa Madama at Rome\*, which many of us will recall with such great pleasure. The

paper to-night has been full of interest and suggestion, and we have had a particularly bright and illuminating discussion. Professor Lethaby, whom we all love to hear, has said some most pungent and true things, but in one way I was at issue with him. He says we go into and out of our railway stations and our untidy streets, and do not notice their condition. I am sure we do notice them and it is painful for an architect and for everyone who loves his city or town to see this untidiness, which could easily be rectified. And it not only applies to our cities: we see the same thing disfiguring our villages, and although we have our Urban and District Councils, none of them appear to take any interest in the tidiness and care of their villages. It seems to me that the introduction, some hundred years or more ago, of the leasehold system in our towns and cities was one of the greatest blows to the sense of citizenship. Nine-tenths of the population live in houses that do not belong to them: they look upon them merely as places of sojourn, and there is an evident lack of pride in their appearance and surroundings. What opportunities we have in London, with our wide avenues leading into the suburbs! Houses which used to have small gardens in front of them are now enclosed by walls and railings, and become unsightly places, with rank grass and dismal paving. If these untidy excrescences were swept away and the space thrown into the roadway, like American cities, given open fronts, with plenty of grass, we should have far more agreeable places to dwell in.

Mr. RICARDO, in reply, said: I have to thank you for your appreciation of my attempt to bring to your notice what really we all feel, though we do not always formulate it in words. The chief thing, I think, which prevents us is a curious modesty, which can hardly be accounted for. And, secondly, there is the idea that the individual does not count for much. But, after all, the world is made up of individuals, and we do really care about these things. But we do not get to the pitch of saying that, and to the further pitch of *doing* something, like expostulating and writing to the Authorities. We do not badger our Municipal Councillors, we do not badger our Members of Parliament: we ought to. There is a natural reluctance, apart from effort, which, I suppose, has something to do with modesty. One speaker said he did not know where the teachers were to come from, but I do not think there will really be any lack of teachers. I sincerely applaud the idea of having a text-book for schools on this subject, and I think almost any schoolmaster could compile it, because these are things which must pass through the minds of all daily. One cannot be among the disorder in the streets without noticing it, and if it is shown that it is not necessary, the next step is to see what one can do. The substratum of truth is that we have not been allowed so far to pronounce on it: we should go trumpeting about our pride in the place. We hear too many pessimistic comments and condemnatory verdicts about the place, and we are not allowed to lift

\* "The Cardinal Medici's Pleasure-House" [JOURNAL, 21 Jan. 1911]

up our eyes. Wordsworth might still stand and gaze—from Westminster Bridge—and be impressed with the great sweep of the Embankment, which is a very fine thing. Let us accept our inheritance, and base ourselves upon it, instead of being apologetic. Major Barnes quoted the statement of the Athenians about citizens and idiots: the Athenians called them so because *idiotēs* were the people who were wrapped up in their own concerns. We still have many people like that, and we know they are unprofitable people. I feel the point Mr. Unwin made, that we, as architects, are in, perhaps, a better position to understand the essence. I might almost say the sanctity—of labour: what it means, how it is used, how it is abused, the underlying principles in it. Labour is a very holy thing—(hear, hear)—and it has been treated in the past without that being recognised. We are now, I think, getting to appreciate it, and having a fellow feeling with it. One speaker talked about the change of styles and fashions. To talk about building in styles is simply Victorian. Architecture is a real thing: if it is a living thing, it is based on the knowledge of the day, and it must be based on construction, it must be based on the science we have, it must be based on the capabilities we have, what we can put our hands to. And, through that, all this mixture must be infused with enthusiasm and inspiration.

#### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

The Secretary tenders his thanks to the members who have kindly sent the following names missing from the list in the last number of the JOURNAL:—

##### *Fallen in the War.*

- MANN, HENRY WILLIAM, Lieut. R.F.A. [*Associate*]. Killed in action, March 1918.  
 ELLIS, EDWARD MILLER [*Licentiate*]. Killed in action.  
 GROTE, ARTHUR LLOYD, Capt. R.E. [*Licentiate*]. Killed in action.  
 JACKSON, CHARLES ERNEST [*Licentiate*]. South Africa Force. Killed in action.  
 BAGSHAW, ARTHUR SAMUEL, 2nd Lieut., 7th Bn. Wilts Regt. [*Student*]. Killed in action, Salomica.  
 BOOKER, GEORGE ARTHUR, Sergt. York and Lancaster Regt. Killed in France, October 1917.  
 GROVES, FRANCIS NEVILLE, Lieut. 3rd Bn. Monmouthshires [*Student*]. Killed in action, 1915.  
 LYNE, EDGAR [*Student*]. Killed in action in France.  
 SMITH, HENRY, Lieut. R.E. [*Student*]. Killed in action.  
 VEY, ARTHUR E., Corp. R.E. [*Student*]. Died of wounds, 1916.

#### War Distinctions.

- DE SOISSONS, Major L. E. S. G. de S. C. Mentioned in Dispatches in 1917; Officer, Ordre de la Mérite Agricole, 1917; Croce di Guerra, Italy; Cavaliere, Order of the Crown of Italy; Officer, O.B.E.  
 GEESON, H. L., of Nairobi. Mentioned in Dispatches in the East African Campaign.

## THE GOVERNMENT HOUSING SCHEME.

By Major HARRY BARNES, M.P. [*F.*], in *The Times* "Housing Supplement," 9th January 1920.

No institution is likely to enjoy complete agreement amongst its members on any single topic, but it can be said that the Royal Institute of British Architects is generally agreed that in its main features the Government housing scheme is sound and should have enthusiastic support. Any failure to secure this is largely due to the unjustifiably sanguine hopes held out by its promoters. Professional men, knowing the stages through which the scheme must pass and aware of the exceptional difficulties produced by war conditions, were not, and are not, perturbed by the apparent slowness of its opening period.

The problem before the Government is not different from that constantly presented to an architect in his practice; and it may be helpful to consider it in that light. The factors are seen to be:—(1) The client, his ideas, advisers, and means; (2) the builder and contractor; (3) the supply of materials, labour and transport. An examination of these factors must, however, be prefaced by two considerations—first, that in the provision of houses for the working classes before the war, some of them were not involved at all and others operated under entirely different conditions. There was no client, no architect, no contractor, materials were not selected, and labour not supervised. The whole operation was a by-product of the building industry. There was a complete machinery of landowner, land developer, financing, mortgaging, and investing solicitor, building society, and speculative builder, grinding out a more or less sufficient number of houses of a more or less satisfactory character. This machinery was stopped by the War and prevented from restarting by the Acts restricting rent. Its driving power was that of all speculative enterprises, the hope of an adequate profit, and this the economic and legislative conditions of the time destroyed. It is hoped to restart it by applying subsidies.

#### THE COST.

Houses built by contractors, to the designs and under the supervision of architects, cost, however, at least 33½ per cent. more than those built by the speculative builder. If there had been no rise in prices the mere change in building processes would have raised the cost of a five-roomed house from, say, £330 to £440. It may be claimed that the result is a better house, and without considering whether the change in process is justified it may also be pointed out that the work of housing, town-planning, and garden city associations during the last decade has been to create a desire for and an expectation of a better house than that provided by the speculative builder.

The second consideration is that, by throwing the load of providing these houses off the machinery

devised for it on to the main plant of the building industry, composed of architect and contractor, fed by the best materials and most skilled labour, such plant is either exposed to an excessive strain or is diverted from its accustomed use. The urgency of housing competes with the urgency of communal and industrial requirements and leads to antagonisms of view and purpose inside the industry.

#### EVILS OF DUAL CONTROL.

The importance of these considerations is in the light they throw on the criticisms directed against the Government scheme. If due weight is given to them it is realised that, apart from war conditions and the tremendous inflation in prices, the mere change in the building process is bound to result in a great increase in cost, and also in complaint and criticism from those whose machinery has been discarded and those whose machinery is diverted to uses for which it is not designed. With this appreciation we may proceed to examine the working of the factors in the process the Government have employed. It will be found that the fairest criticism is not that the Government have chosen the wrong process, but that in its methods it has fallen between the two stools of centralisation and decentralisation. It might have centralised the process at Whitehall and carried out the undertaking as a whole, or it might have decentralised the process, leaving local authorities an entirely free hand. The first course would have given us houses where they were not wanted: the second course left us without houses where they were wanted. The Government attempted a combination of methods which has been attended by the excellences and defects of both.

The charge against the Government is delay, and the charge is so far merited in that the powers of the Ministry have not been sufficiently delegated. It is one thing to apply a routine of procedure to a backward, ill-staffed rural district council, and another to compel its observance by a progressive and well-organised municipality. Some risk had to be taken, and local authorities whose area had a rateable value of over £200,000 and were expected to arrange their own finance should have been left free from the dual control which has been the main cause of delay. This appears in every factor of the process, as we shall see.

#### THE CLIENT'S POSITION.

The Ministry and the local authority both appear in the *role* of client. Naturally their ideas often differ. They have different advisers. Schemes are bandied to and fro. Questions settled on the spot are reopened in London. Plans prepared by competent architects outside the Ministry are amended by architects no more competent inside. The Ministry has an excellent staff. So have the great municipalities. The Advisory Committees in London have excellent general ideas about planning. The local housing committees have particular ideas about local tastes and requirements. In important areas the risk should have been taken of the people on the spot being right. Whitehall should have concentrated on

the stragglers, the inefficient, and left the others to work out their own salvation.

In nothing has this fatal dualism been a more fruitful source of delay than in the question of finance. To have the money for building would be the first thought of a private individual: it appears to have been the last thought of the Government. Questions of loan fly like shuttlecocks between the Treasury and the local authorities. A national loan is discarded for municipal bonds. Uncertainty enters into the apportionment of liability between the one and the other. The Treasury distrusts the prudence of the local authority, which in its turn doubts the good faith of the Treasury. Municipalities will not move till they know where they are. This Gordian knot of suspense must be cut by the announcement that under no circumstances will the authority be liable for more than the proceeds of a penny rate, the Treasury reserving power to step in and appoint a receiver if the property is being improperly managed.

#### THE BUILDER AND CONTRACTOR.

How are the services of the builder and contractor to be secured? And at what price? Two basic facts must be remembered—(1) He does not particularly want this work: repair work, industrial and commercial construction are more in his line and more profitable: (2) he will not cut prices to get it. The builder and contractor is usually a member of one of the most powerful federations of employers in this country, and in some parts of the country has decided he will not tender against the builder who is not in the Federation. He is not out to profiteer, but he is not out to work for nothing. He is prepared to see the housing problem through at a reasonable remuneration, but if housing schemes are to be put on the market for open tendering he will turn his attention to the class of work of which the market is full, which promises a better return.

This means that tendering for housing schemes has gone, and some system of agreeing prices and fixing profits must be adopted. It will be a pill for local authorities to swallow, but there is no escape from it. We have turned away from the speculative builder to the builder and contractor, and we must accept the conditions under which the latter will work. Only by a large measure of confidence in, and co-operation with, the Federation of Building Trades' Employers is there a possibility of any large part of the housing programme being carried out. When in any area the master builder's capacity is exhausted, local authorities may proceed to employ direct labour or builders outside the Federation. Till then the wisest and most economical course is to work in unison with this main part of the organised building industry.

#### MATERIALS, LABOUR, AND TRANSPORT.

The position with regard to building materials is not clear. There is good reason to believe that many materials are controlled by trade combinations, and also that Government action in buying and holding stocks is responsible for much inflation of prices. The

view is largely held that a free market in materials with unrestricted importation is essential. Prices would soar for a time, but the consequent increase in supply, it is thought, would bring them down, while the Profiteering Act would restrain gross profiteering. It is at this point we approach the crux of the housing problem. It is not difficult to secure sites: the land has practically been all obtained. There is more difficulty in getting proper professional advice, but if the Ministry and local authorities would consult more freely with the Royal Institute of British Architects that difficulty could be surmounted. There is no insuperable difficulty in arranging a fair profit with the master builder: it is when the supply of materials and labour is considered that the real difficulties appear.

With regard to materials the policy would seem to be, having abandoned tendering, to watch closely the production and price of materials and if necessary regulate prices on a basis arrived at by a costing system. With regard to labour the problem is more difficult. The supply is admittedly short: how can it be increased? Only this can be said, the question is unanswerable apart from the co-operation and concurrence of the trade unions. The same considerations which compel co-operation with the Employers' Federation compel co-operation with the Federation of Operatives. The fears of unemployment and wage reduction have to be met and dispelled, and this can only be done in conference and in the spirit of confidence. The sense of duty and responsibility in national emergency is as strong in the working class as anywhere, and will never be rightly appealed to in vain.

To sum up:—(1) Let the Government place their financial proposals above suspicion. (2) Let the Government cease to buy and hold materials or impose restrictions on their import. (3) Let the Ministry delegate complete powers to all local authorities that finance themselves. (4) Let the Ministry and the local authorities take into council the organised bodies of architects, builders, and operatives.

When these things are done, all will have been done that can be done to carry out the housing undertaking which has been given to the electors of the country.

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## REVIEWS.

### THE WORK OF MR. WILLIAM WALCOT.

*Architectural Water-Colours and Etchings of W. Walcot. With an introduction by Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. 4to. Lond., 1919. £3 3s. [H. C. Dickens, Lond. and New York: Technical Journals Ltd., 27-29 Tothill St.].*

Architects, in particular, are under a great debt of obligation to Mr. Walcot. He is for us like some inspired poet, whose lovely lyrics in line and colour inspire our dull days of prose. He gives us a new vision of architecture, past and present, and this always in terms of life. Probably this is where he differs

mostly from his predecessors, the great architectural draughtsmen—Piranesi, Canaletto, Hubert Robert, Panini and others—whose works have this in common, that they seem remote from ordinary human existence. Sir Reginald Blomfield in his most interesting introduction says—“They (Canaletto and Panini) drew their architecture in correct perspective, and then they (or somebody else) put in figures to give scale and interest to the architecture. But to Mr. Walcot, the architecture, the figures and the atmosphere present themselves as a whole, one single vision of what is before him.”

This is the peculiar significance of Walcot's work, that he has related past and present. One feels, in looking over the plates of this most handsome volume, that one becomes a spectator in the scenes portrayed: you, yourself, are walking through those crowded streets of ancient Rome: in the densely packed amphitheatre you too thrill at the entrance of the Emperor, or watch with strained eyes and hardly suppressed excitement the gladiatorial display in the Arena. It comes as a surprise, even to those of us who have known and admired Mr. Walcot's drawings for many years, to find what an extended range of interest is covered. Drawings and etchings of ancient Babylon, Greece and Rome, Medieval and Renaissance Italy, Paris, London, street scenes, intimate interiors, and huge public places and spaces filled with the crowds of many and various nationalities.

All the writers who have contributed so much to the interest of this book, almost without exception lay stress on Mr. Walcot as an interpreter of Roman life, and it is probably true that it is with the scenes and buildings of Roman civilization that Mr. Walcot feels particularly in sympathy. One feels that the Greek and pre-Roman periods leave him a little cold. The drawing of the Hecatompedon (page 105) has about it more of the glitter of Roman than the quiet serenity of Greek work.

In the view of the Acropolis (page 89) the author deliberately takes the period after its restoration by Agrippa or Hadrian, but neither of these two drawings nor the etching of the Propylæa (page 3)—though this is probably the most successful of the Greek subjects—grips like the Roman. There is again in the Temple of Baal (page 9) and in Babylon (page 79) a lack of reality and some slight sense of confusion. The author seems at a loss for want of the definite lines of column, cornice and arch.

It seems a little ungracious at such a feast as this to criticise any of the courses: one more little cavil, and it is finished. On page 71, “A Tragedy of Sophocles,” Mr. Walcot gives us a version of a Roman doorway for which surely there is no possible precedent—the sunk panel with the thin and rather scratchy figures immediately above the opening, the shelf-like cornice with the over-weighted blocking course, and the very deep frieze of straggling scroll ornament round the podium wall of the building, suggest rather the poverty of modern design than the triumphant robustness of

## DIVIDING THE PROFESSION

ancient Rome. It would seem as if in this particular etching the artist was more concerned with qualities of tone rather than of form.

But having said this, we have said the worst. The great master is allowed to take liberties which would be the complete and final condemnation of a lesser artist; and any of Mr. Walcot's solecisms are preferable to the chilling exactness of the pedantic archeologist. With Roman and post-Roman subjects Mr. Walcot is supreme, and it is a standing reproach to this Institute that there is not a single original Walcot drawing in its possession.

STANLEY C. RAMSEY [F.].

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### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### **Dividing the Profession.**

*Official Architects' Association,  
Curton Hall, Westminster, S.W.1,  
9th January, 1920.*

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

SIR.—May I be allowed to offer a few comments on the letter of Mr. Maurice B. Adams, appearing in the JOURNAL for 20th December, in so far as it refers to the Official Architects' Association.

The Association was formed to meet a long-felt want by architects holding appointments in an official capacity irrespective of their membership of the Institute or any other professional association. The objects of this Association are as follows:—To foster the higher interests of the Art of Architecture: to provide facilities for the interchange of information and advice: to read and circulate papers and communications: to hold an annual conference: to establish an employment bureau for assistants: to consider questions which may arise affecting the work and interests of the members.

It may well be left to the judgment of members of the Institute as to whether the pursuit of these objects is calculated:—(a) "To further the interests of salaried architects in defiance of the welfare of architects in private practice," or (b) "To disrupt the general harmony of the Institute," as considered likely by Mr. Adams. The formation of the Association was never inspired with such objects in view, and the Council of the Association regret that such an interpretation should be possible by any responsible member of the profession.

Mr. Adams's statement that prior to the Institute Meeting of 1st December, a gathering took place with the object of disrupting the general harmony of the Institute and of voting against the policy of war concessions to Associate candidates, is both preposterous and untrue, and such a statement from him only arouses a feeling of extreme surprise. The coincidence that a large percentage of the members of the Association are also members of the Institute accounts for the

fact that the President, Mr. W. E. Riley, was asked to express their views as such, and not as an official protest on behalf of the Association.

The Association is quite competent of seeing that all its members are properly qualified, and it is equally jealous of the professional status of all its members. Under the circumstances one is perhaps justified in thinking that the professed loyalty of Mr. Adams to his "alma mater" might be more suitably expressed than by publication, as facts, of fears generated entirely by his own imagination.

W. T. CURTIS [A.].

*Hon. Sec., Official Architects' Association.*

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

SIR.—In your current number Mr. A. W. Sheppard has manifestly misconstrued my letter printed under the above heading on 20th December, because he credits me with precisely the reverse of what I said by implying that I originated the threat of discord in our ranks. After a sympathetic reference to the incongruous blackballing of candidates for the Associateship last June, Mr. Sheppard says "it is difficult to understand how Mr. Adams should think the issue was raised to divide the Institute." I did not suppose anything so like a "storm in a teapot," but I directed attention to a much more serious affair and pointed out the inconsistency of those who so "glibly spoke about the terrible risk of dividing the profession's ranks throughout the Empire by suspending *pro tem.* the By-laws 10 and 11." The minority at the meeting held on 1st December raised this specious cry, including some of Mr. Sheppard's friends, who were evidently employed in setting up a special society (a sort of Trade Unionists' movement) to further the interests of salaried officials to the detriment of architects in private practice. That kind of thing, I said, was "most likely to disrupt the general harmony of the Institute," and added "anything more inconsistent can hardly be conceived." The authors of this one-sided project might have suggested their proposals would prove "a blessing in disguise." As it happened, no information was given.

Having been an Associate for over a quarter of a century, Mr. Arthur Sheppard appears to entertain a very poor opinion of the position, seeing he assures us he "fails to see any severe hardship" such concerted blackballing entails, and also writes that his considered "contention is that no rectification is necessary." Having once been young (when competition was perhaps not so severe as it is now), I differ from Mr. Sheppard, knowing as I do the difficulty of making a start. On the other hand, he exalts the abilities of "anonymous" designers, commonly known as "Ghosts." In many ways such individuals are no doubt capable, and some of us may have had in times past to "take in washing," but that is no justification for Mr. Sheppard's "open door" into the ranks of the Fellowship. On no account would I support his claim



that our Constitution at Conduit Street should be tampered with by leaving out the wholesome and necessary stipulation that candidates as Fellows must have had seven years' practice as principals. To advocate this and at the same time go out of the way in war time to keep out properly qualified younger men from the Associateship is to me inexplicable. "Anonymous" designers would not exist if practitioners did not flourish on their vicarial work, getting credit for other men's conceptions. I venture to say that the Institute, if it cannot stop this kind of business, must not facilitate such methods. To advance "anonymous" architects to the "grade" of Fellows in the way advocated by Mr. Sheppard would degrade the Institute and could not improve the art of designing with beauty or building with truth.—Yours faithfully,

MAURICE B. ADAMS [F.].

16th January 1920.

P.S.—The above letter was written before I had seen the somewhat belated explanation now issued by the Hon. Sec. of the Official Architects' Association, Mr. W. T. Curtis. He says that the opinions I arrived at were generated entirely by my own imagination. Not so, for they were forced upon me by what I saw and heard at the Institute Meeting on the 1st December: the threat of reprisals and the most unfortunate omission of information about the real purpose of the previously held conference whose protest against suspending By-laws 10 and 11 was employed to influence our voting. Anyway, I do not agree with the assumption that the higher interests of the art of architecture are fostered by any alliance (triple or otherwise) of official architects, municipal engineers, and borough surveyors. Brilliant individual exceptions possibly might be named, and big personalities like Sir Horace Jones rise up from the past. Does Mr. Curtis seriously contend that the interests of private architects are furthered by the purposes for which he is working? He assures us that his members are quite competent to judge whether an architect is qualified or not. When the 50 competent candidates for the A.R.I.B.A. were blackballed by Mr. Curtis's friends last June, are we to understand that this claim for competence was satisfactorily demonstrated?

M. B. A.

#### Christopher Wren, his Son, and "Parentalia."

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—I was very glad to read the letter of my old friend Mr. Harry Sirr on this interesting subject, and I note there is really no disagreement with my views published in the JOURNAL of the 20th ultimo. Mr. Sirr quotes the statement in *Parentalia* that Dr. Wren took "an exact survey of the whole area": as we know from Evelyn that Wren submitted his scheme within "two days after the conflagration," the statement is obviously ridiculous,

for the streets at that time were impassable. Apparently what actually happened was that Wren noted the limits of destruction and prepared the plan which is now at Oxford and which I showed as a lantern slide. This outline plan was all that Wren wanted, for within the fire boundary he made a clean sweep of the City, and dealt with it as a vacant site. The note "plan to be annex'd," which I noted on the M.S. of *Parentalia*, evidently referred to Wren's completed proposal, which is also at Oxford, and is reproduced in the JOURNAL, page 72.—Yours faithfully,

SYDNEY PERKS [F.].

#### RUBENS AS ARCHITECTURAL AMATEUR.

The Institute Library has lately been enriched by a gift of great historic interest, comprising a collection of the original drawings prepared for Rubens's book, the *Palazzi di Genova*, which has been generously presented by Mr. St. Clair Baddeley.

This work, which illustrates certain of the Genoese villas in a series of measured drawings, was an outcome of Rubens's stay in the city during some months of the year 1607, where he had proceeded from Rome to carry out various commissions for paintings. Rubens returned to his home in Antwerp in the following year, but it was not until 1622 that the first volume, *Il Palazzi Antichi*, was published. This contains 72 engraved plates giving the plans, elevations and sections of twelve of the *palazzi*: while the second volume, *Il Palazzi Moderni*, issued subsequently, illustrates in plan and elevation nineteen villas and four churches in a series of 67 plates. The engravings were issued without any descriptive text saving a brief introduction in Italian, written by Rubens, prefaced to the first volume. In this he says, "I give the plans, elevations . . . and two sections of certain palaces which I collected at Genoa, not without trouble and expense, although I had the good fortune to be able to avail myself to some extent of the work of another." Here the question of the authorship of the original drawings is raised. Although the title-page of the work describes the series as "raccolti e designati" by him it seems unlikely that Rubens was the actual draughtsman. At least two different hands are discernible in the drawings. Those prepared for the second volume show much poorer technical ability in execution. Apart from the fact that Rubens is presumed to have stayed only some months during 1607 in Genoa, his time must have been well occupied in his studio, and it seems improbable that he did more than direct the tedious and prolonged work of measuring up the no small number of 35 buildings which he illustrates. Local draughtsmen no doubt assisted him, and it is observable that the handwriting on the drawings describing the various parts of the buildings surveyed is in an Italian script. The ren-



dering throughout is in the usual line and sepia wash of the period.

In their present state the drawings are bound up as one volume in a guard book, where they are numbered and arranged in their order of publication. Fifteen of the sheets are wanting,\* the missing drawings being replaced by the insertion of the corresponding prints engraved from them. This apparently was done by the former owner who pens an anonymous note on a flyleaf stating that "This book was bought out of the collection of Sir Tho. Franklin but some of the drawings were missing so that there was a necessity of compleating it with Prints. . . .†

Inasmuch as Rubens's book was not in the ordinary sense a text-book its extended vogue as an exemplar of architecture is astonishing, for following its original publication at Antwerp in 1622 no less than four subsequent reprints appeared, covering altogether a period of over a century and a half, the last edition appearing at Amsterdam and Leipsig in 1775. Such popularity proves its acceptance without cavil as an adequate record of the architecture of Genoa. But the current standard of accuracy in architectural rendering was not an exacting one. How far it falls short of the modern may be seen on comparing Rubens's publication with Gauthier's fine drawings of the same subjects.‡ In the introduction to his work Gauthier refers witheringly to the "ouvrage publié sous le nom de Rubens," and says, "Je dis sous le nom, parceque, bien qu'on puisse être grand peintre sans être architecte, j'aime à croire que si le travail eût été fait par Rubens, il auroit au moins donné la figure exacte des modèles qu'il avoit sous les yeux." He further describes the drawings as being "d'une inexactitude choquante, et que la manière dont les plans sont rendus, les présente sous un aspect inintelligible." Even a casual examination of the drawings with the published plates, which were engraved for Rubens by Nicolas Ryckemans, reveals many discrepancies between the dimensions figured on the originals and the reproductions. More extraordinary, however, is the fact that the engraver copied the drawings on to his plates without reversing them, so that in the printed version the whole series appears in reverse. This may partly explain Gauthier's strictures on their unintelligibility. It should be said, however, that Rubens warns his readers of this curious oversight, for which he blames the engraver.

In issuing his plates Rubens avowedly hoped to hasten the decay of the "barbarous, or Gothic" style of architecture, which he describes as "slowly perishing and disappearing," by providing new models for the domestic architecture of his own country. And he suggests that the Genoese villas, being designed on a moderate scale, would form more suitable types for

imitation than the greater and more famous palaces of Italy or France. Two years after his return to Antwerp he put his precepts into practice by designing his own house and studio there, and though only fragments of the building now remain they suffice to show, as was to be expected, his adherence to his selected models from the "superba città."

W. GRANT KEITH,

*Assistant Librarian.*

#### Victoria and Albert Museum: Furniture lent by the Duke of Abercorn.

A number of important pieces of furniture lent by the Duke of Abercorn have recently been placed on exhibition in the Loan Court of the Museum. These include a commode signed "Riesener," with elaborate ormolu mounts, amid which is the monogram of Marie Antoinette; a sideboard also inlaid with the monogram of Marie Antoinette; a fourfold French screen of the eighteenth century, painted with figure compositions; a painted Italian coffer, and other pieces of furniture of value and interest.

#### The Housing Question in America.

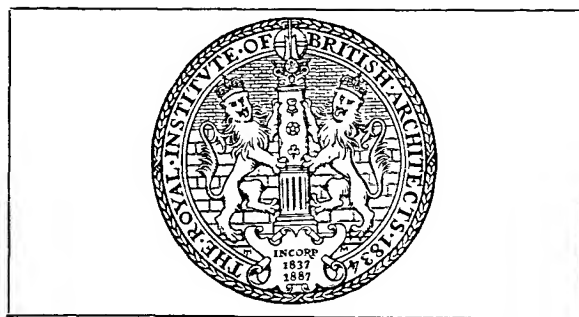
The National Housing Association, New York City, has presented to the Institute the following series of books and pamphlets, with two exceptions the Association's own publications within the past year or two:—

- Housing Problems in America. Vol. VII. (Proceedings of the Seventh National Conference on Housing, Boston, Nov. 1918.) 469 pp. So.
- Housing Betterment: A Journal of Housing Advance. Issued quarterly. No. 3, Vol. VIII. Sept. 1919.
- Indian Hill: An Industrial Village for the Norton Co., Worcester, Mass. By Chas. C. May. 2nd ed. July 1919. Pamph.
- The Districting of Cities. By Lawson Purdy, New York. Pamph.
- Triumphing over the Gridiron Plan. By Lawrence Veiller. Pamph.
- Lessons from Housing Developments of the United States Housing Corporation. By Frederick Law Olmsted. Pamph.
- Industrial Housing Developments in America: Eclipse Park, Beloit, Wis. A Development by George P. Post and Sons, Architects and Town Planners. By Lawrence Veiller. Pamph. 2nd ed. July 1919.
- The Challenge of the Housing Problem. By Nolle Foster Hogson. Pamph.
- The Industrial Village. By John Nolen. Pamph.
- Housing: its Relation to Social Work. By Albion Fellows Bacon. Pamph.
- The Menace of the Three-Decker. By Prescott F. Hall, Brookline. Pamph.
- A Study of the Housing and Social Conditions in the Ann Street District of Los Angeles, California. By Gladys Patric, M.D. Pamph. [Published by the Los Angeles Society for Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis.]
- One Million People in Small Houses. By Helen L. Parrish. Philadelphia. 3rd ed. Pamph.
- Industrial Housing. By John Nolen. Pamph.
- Industrial Housing. By Lawrence Veiller. Pamph.
- Housing and Health. By Lawrence Veiller. Pamph.
- What Bad Housing Means to the Community. By Albion Fellows Bacon. 7th ed. Pamph.
- The After-Care of a Housing Law. By Albion Fellows Bacon. Pamph.
- What Types of Houses to Build. By Percy R. MacNulle, Architect. Pamph.
- Organising the Housing Work of a Community. By Bernard J. Newman. Pamph.
- Low-priced Houses for Wage-Earners. By Jacob G. Schmidlapp, Cincinnati. Pamph.
- Houses or Homes? First Report of the Cincinnati Better Housing League. Pamph.
- Report of the Ontario Housing Committee, including Standards for Inexpensive Houses adopted for Ontario, and typical Plans. Printed by order of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario 1919.

\* In vol. i, sheets 1, 67, 68 and 69; in vol. ii, sheets 6, 12, 21, 24, 45, 54, 57, 61, 64, 65 and 67.

† A further note inserted by a subsequent owner identifies Sir Thomas Franklin (or Franklin) as a baronet who died 5th October, 1728.

‡ *Les plus beaux édifices de la ville de Gènes et de ses environs*, by M. P. Gauthier. 2 vols. Paris 1818-32. fol.



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 24th January 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### R.I.B.A. Prizes and Studentships 1920 : Deed of Award.

The Designs and Drawings submitted for the Prizes and Studentships in the gift of the Royal Institute are now on exhibition in the R.I.B.A. Galleries, 9 Conduit Street, and will remain open to members and the public until the 2nd February (10 a.m. till 6 p.m.). The Council's Deed of Award, made in accordance with By-law 71 and read at the General Meeting, of the 19th January gives the results as follows :—

#### THE ROYAL INSTITUTE SILVER MEDALS.

##### (i.) *The Essay Medal and Twenty-Five Guineas.*

Three Essays were received for the Silver Medal under the following mottoes :—

1. "Classic" : Some Monumental Buildings of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries.
2. "Cubed" : An Egyptian Temple of the Fourth Dynasty.
3. "Tricity" : Electrical Installations in Buildings.

The Council have awarded the Silver Medal and Twenty-Five Guineas to the author of the Essay submitted under the motto "Tricity." \*

##### (ii.) *The Measured Drawings Medal and Twenty-Five Guineas.*

Five sets of drawings were sent in of the several buildings mentioned and under mottoes as follows :

1. "Iris" : 6 strainers (St. Paul's Cathedral).
2. "Sapper" : 4 strainers (The Royal Hospital, Chelsea).
3. "Mesnil" : 5 strainers (Archbishop Abbot's Hospital, Guildford).
4. "Rex" : 5 strainers (Manchester Free Trade Hall).
5. "Eve" : 9 drawings (Hopetoun House, South Queensferry).

The Council have awarded the Silver Medal and Twenty-Five Guineas to the author of the Drawings submitted under the motto "Iris." †

#### THE TRAVELLING STUDENTSHIPS.

##### (i.) *The Soane Medallion and £150.*

Two designs for a Bridge over a river with covered

footways were submitted under the following mottoes :—

1. "Victoria Edificatrix" : 6 strainers.
2. "City Centre" : 8 strainers.

The Council have awarded the Medallion, and subject to the specified conditions, the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds, to the author of the design submitted under the motto "Victoria Edificatrix."\* and a Certificate of Hon. Mention to the author of the design submitted under the motto "City Centre." †

##### (ii.) *The Owen Jones Studentship and £150.*

One application was received from the following gentleman :—

G. F. Quarmby : 6 strainers.

The Council have awarded the Certificate, and, subject to the specified conditions, the sum of £150 to Mr. G. F. Quarmby, 28 Warwick Road, Earl's Court, S.W.

##### (iii.) *The Pugin Studentship and £60.*

Three applications were received for the Pugin Studentship from the following gentlemen :—

1. H. St. J. Harrison : 4 strainers.
2. G. Holt : 4 strainers.
3. E. Williams : 25 drawings.

The Council have awarded the Medal, and, subject to the specified conditions, the sum of £60 to Mr. H. St. J. Harrison [A.], 15 Hereford Buildings, Church Street, Chelsea, S.W.3. and a Medal of Merit to Mr. G. Holt.

##### (iv.) *The Tile Prize and £45.*

Ten designs for an imaginative Composition in Perspective for an Open Loggia, with Library over, in the Italian style, in accordance with the methods of Palladio, Vignola, Wren, or Chambers, were submitted under the following mottoes :—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. "Stucco" : 5 strainers.                 | 6. Grotesque head device : 5 strainers. |
| 2. "Liber" : 4 strainers.                  | 7. "Ubique" : 2 strainers.              |
| 3. "Exul" : 4 strainers.                   | 8. "Venus" : 5 strainers.               |
| 4. Spade in Triangle device : 3 strainers. | 9. "Eureka" : 4 strainers.              |
| 5. "Job Conwyn" : 4 strainers.             | 10. "Lorenzo de Medici" : 5 strainers.  |

The Council have awarded the Certificate, and, subject to the specified conditions, the sum of £45 to the author of the design submitted under the motto "Stucco" ‡; and a certificate of Hon. Mention to the author of the design submitted under the motto "Exul." §

\* "Victoria Edificatrix" : Arthur Gordon Shoosmith [A.], 60 Tutton Street, Westminster, S.W.

† "City Centre" : George Alfred Rose [A.], 54 King's Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.

‡ "Stucco" : P. H. Meldrum, 34 Cartwright Gardens, W.C.1.

§ "Exul" : Verner O. Rees, Architect's Department, Messrs. Lever Bros., Port Sunlight, Cheshire.

\* "Tricity" : H. Burkett Leighton [A.], 68 Upper Albert Road, Meersbrook, Sheffield.

† "Iris" : Arthur F. E. Poley, Willowbank, Hampton Hill, S.W.

(v.) *The Godwin Bursary and Wimperis Bequest.*

One application was received for the Godwin Bursary and Wimperis Bequest from the following gentleman :—

A. F. Wickenden [A ].

The Council regret that they are unable to award the Godwin Bursary and Wimperis Bequest.

*The Grissell Gold Medal and Ten Guineas.*

Five designs for a Water Tower were submitted under the following mottoes :—

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. "Cretan" : 3 strainers. | 4. "Young Tom" :      |
| 2. "Triard" : 4 strainers. | 4 strainers.          |
| 3. "Concrete" :            | 5. "Scientia Arque" : |
| 1 strainer.                | 4 strainers           |

The Council have awarded the Medal and Ten Guineas to the author of the design submitted under the motto "Concrete." \*

*The Ashpitel Prize, 1919.*

The Council have, on the recommendation of the Board of Architectural Education, awarded the Ashpitel Prize (which is a Prize of Books, value £10, awarded to the candidate who has most highly distinguished himself among the candidates in the Final Examinations of the year) to Mr. Thomas Francis Ford, of 36 Hanover Park, Peckham, S.E.15, Probationer 1912. Student 1915, who passed the Final Examination in July 1919.

*The Proposed Charing Cross Improvement.*

Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., and Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., writing from the London Society to *The Times* of the 13th inst., express the gratification felt by all who are interested in the improvement of London to find another supporter, this time with an official position, to the scheme for removing Charing Cross station and bridge and constructing a road bridge in their place. The supporter referred to is Mr. John Murray [F.], Surveyor to the Crown Estates in London, whose proposals for the reconstruction of the Charing Cross area were published with illustrations in *The Times* of the 7th inst., and briefly outlined in the last issue of the JOURNAL. The writers above-mentioned state :—

The present scheme shows a bridge from the level of the Strand; others suggest a lower level; but in the opinion of the London Society the main point is, whatever the scheme, that the railway bridge and the present station should go. Especially is this the case with a prospect of the Channel Tunnel being constructed and the consequent increase of the main line traffic into Charing Cross.

It was mainly owing to the representations of this Society that the House of Lords restricted the railway company from carrying out any permanent structural alterations to the present bridge above the water-line until the latter part of this year, and declined to agree to any enlargement of the station without further application to Parliament. The time limit is now running out, and unless something is done shortly the chance may be lost of effecting a lasting improvement for the beauty and con-

venience of London, and one which would give what is so much required, an unrivalled opportunity for the worthy setting of memorials.

This Society, together with individual effort, has done all that is possible to this end, and it now remains for the authorities interested and responsible to the public to prepare a scheme for execution when peace and financial conditions will allow. The Society approached the London County Council, one of these authorities, by deputation some little time ago, and received a sympathetic response, but, so far as we are aware, nothing further has been done for the accomplishment of this scheme, either by this or any other of the authorities concerned.

It is not even yet too late.

The R.I.B.A., it will be remembered, some three years ago, in conjunction with the London Society, petitioned both Houses of Parliament against the Railway Company's Charing Cross Bridge Bill, with the result that provisions were introduced into the Bill to ensure that every opportunity should be afforded the authorities interested to consider the possibilities of the great schemes of improvement advocated for the area before any large expenditure was permitted on the old bridge and station. Immediately after the Armistice a joint deputation from the Institute and the London Society, headed by the President, Mr. Henry T. Hare, represented to the Improvements Committee of the London County Council the greatness of the opportunity then presented for the construction of a new bridge at Charing Cross as an Imperial Monument of the war, and urging the L.C.C. to lay down the lines upon which the improvements suggested for that area might proceed.

The scheme of improvement put forward for consideration by Mr. John Burns, Sir Aston Webb, and Sir Reginald Blomfield is illustrated and described in the JOURNAL for 11th November, 1916.

Mr. Raffles Davison [*Hon. A.*], in *The Times* of the 16th, protests strongly against Mr. Murray's proposed high-level bridge.

The erection of a great viaduct across the Thames from the Strand level to the south side (he says) would not only destroy the Adelphi, but cut across the Embankment Gardens at their widest part, so dividing in half one of the most useful and charming open spaces in London. To my mind, one of the glories of London is the splendid stretch of gardens from Westminster to Blackfriars, which are only blighted at present by the Charing Cross railway bridge. Any one who wishes to realise what will be the effect of a new high-level bridge need only walk from the sunshine into the gloomy roadway under this bridge and realise that with an arched bridge instead of steel construction the headroom will be even less. I will not touch on the greater economy of the shorter low-level bridge, but only emphasise the futility of giving with one hand and taking away more with the other!

In his Paper entitled "Beautiful London," read at the Institute in May, 1914 [JOURNAL, 23rd May, 1914], Mr. Raffles Davison described and illustrated by plans and perspective drawings a scheme put forward by himself and Mr. Niven for the improvement of Charing Cross. This includes a low-level bridge, all the rise for which, state the authors of the scheme, "would be obtained within a length of 600 feet. This gradient of 1 in 50 is identical with

\* "Concrete": Frank H. Heaven [A.], 39 Coronation Street, Aberkenfig, Glam.

Westminster, which is the easiest in London. The new street from the Strand to this 'place' falls in an easier gradient—viz., 1 in 56."

Sir Reginald Blomfield, interviewed by the *Observer* (see issue for 11th January), says:

"The whole question of dealing with Charing Cross bridge has been considered, as far as it possibly could be, by individuals, but it has never yet received any serious official consideration. It is now the duty of the qualified authorities to take the matter up seriously."

"In my opinion this is not the moment to put forward detailed proposals. The first step that is essential is to obtain authentic data with regard to sites, finance, and traffic problems. In the absence of these data—and they can be supplied only by the official authorities—detailed suggestions for treatment are too much in the air to have any very great value."

"Before London Bridge was built, experts of all kinds—men of science, engineers, and architects—were consulted, and full reports were drawn up and published by order of the House of Commons. Perhaps this precedent might be followed at the present time. A committee consisting of the various experts, including artists, engineers, valuers, and representative public men, might be appointed to clear the ground by securing and considering the necessary data. At any rate, it is time we came to grips with the realities of this extremely important question."

Captain George S. C. Swinton, in an *Observer* interview reported in the issue of 18th January, suggests a clear and definite course to be undertaken by the Government.

"The Government at the present time control the railways," he says, "they are closely interested in traffic and housing, and they are bound to shoulder the responsibility of an Empire War Memorial. The Charing Cross scheme fits in with all these things. Let the Government, then, appoint a strong committee, on which naturally the London County Council would have considerable weight, which would bring together the representatives of all the interested parties and draft a comprehensive proposal."

"It should be the duty of the Government Committee to consider the advantage of the property on the north side of the river from Trafalgar Square as far as Covent Garden, and, on the south, the whole of the Waterloo Station area down to the New Cut. Make the scheme big enough, and the improvement of land values, especially on the south side of the river, will be so considerable that the cost will be small."

"What we have to remember first of all is that on the nearest site in the capital of the Empire there is an ugly railway station, too small for its needs even now, and quite unsuitable for the greatly increased traffic which may be expected in the future, when either a Channel tunnel or a Channel ferry brings London into direct touch not only with all the capitals of Europe, but also with the chief cities of the East."

"Now, whilst there is this congested area in a central section of London around Charing Cross Station, there is just across the river an ample supply of cheap land crying out for development, asking to be occupied, on which there is room for the finest station in Europe."

"The station in our capital at which visitors from foreign countries arrive should be worthy of London and the Empire. Germany taught us some bad things, but certainly in the last twenty years she showed us how stations should be built. It is merely common-sense to stop our long-distance trains on the other side of the river. Most of their passengers have luggage, and, therefore, will not walk. An extra quarter of a mile over a new bridge will add little to the time or cost of a journey in any vehicle."

"The bridge should have two storeys, the road bridge

being at the top, and underneath a covered way for the people who walk. It is even possible that the suburban electric trains could be carried on the lower storey of the bridge to an underground station. In any case the bridge ought to be crossable in bad weather in comfort and under cover. Perhaps the best plan would be a rolling platform for taking people across the bridge during the rush hours."

"The new bridge, whatever may be the details of its construction, must be monumental, magnificent to look at, very wide and very high."

"I see there are still one or two persons who talk about a low-level bridge. Quite apart from the criminal folly of needlessly incurring difficulties of cross traffic, I wonder if they realise that, at the point the bridge would touch, the river at high tide comes to within 4 feet of the surface of the Embankment roadway. What gradients do these persons suggest for their bridge? A low-level bridge, in a word, would jam the traffic on the Embankment in a quite unjustifiable way, and it would block the river."

"Having got your bridge—your high-level bridge—you must," Captain Swinton added, "have something, preferably a tower, on the Strand side which can be seen not only as you come across the bridge and from the other end of it, but also all along the south of the river from Lambeth to Blackfriars."

"Before the war, when one thought of this question, it was difficult to discover any erection which could justifiably be placed on the finest site in the British Empire. But now that the war has necessitated a notable memorial here is the opportunity. Such a memorial might be outwardly a monument and inwardly a record house in which the records of the war and the names of the men who have fallen and those still living who have distinguished themselves could be seen in printed books. The roadway would pass on either side of it. The memorial need not necessarily be very big, but it must be high and monumental, so that it may be seen from a distance. For the same reason it should stand rather in front of the general land contour—about 40 or 50 feet perhaps in front of the line of the National Liberal Club and the Hotel Cecil. There it would be visible from both sides, and it would become a conspicuous challenge the whole way round this magnificent curve of the river."

#### "Luxury" Buildings: Local Authorities' New Powers.

It is announced that the regulations which have been framed by the Ministry of Health to govern local authorities in the application of their new powers of restraining "luxury" building will be issued in the next few days, and will come into force forthwith. The initiative in regard to the suspension of work on what is considered to be a "luxury" building will rest with the local authority. It is not intended to penalise "luxury" builders more than is absolutely necessary.

Where a local authority has an adequate housing scheme in progress and the work is proceeding satisfactorily, it may be assumed that the progress of any other building scheme—whether of factories, shops, or cinemas—will not be interfered with. Where, however, it appears to a local authority that new housing schemes in its area are being, or may be, delayed by the construction of other buildings which for the time being are of less public importance, the local authority may, subject to the conditions prescribed by the Ministry of Health, prohibit the construction of such buildings either wholly or partially. Such power is to be exercised not only in the interests of houses for the working classes, which form part of a housing scheme of the authority, but also in the interests of all housing construction,

including private building and houses for the middle classes.

Work on a "luxury" building may be suspended for a maximum period of six months, when if necessary the position can be reviewed. An obligation is placed on the local authority to serve a notice on a builder for the stoppage of a building to which it takes exception. This notice, however, will be subject to an appeal by the builder to the Minister of Health. For the purpose of hearing appeals and deciding disputed cases the Ministry is setting up a tribunal consisting of five members. The chairman will possess legal knowledge. Two of the members will represent the Building Resettlement Committee, one for the employers and the other for the employees. The remaining two members will represent respectively the local authority and the point of view of the business man.

The new regulations do not attempt to define "luxury" building. A local authority will have merely to determine whether, in its own area, a particular building is delaying housing, and whether it is more important that that building or that new houses should be erected. On the second point many difficult questions may arise, and a local authority will be urged to exercise its powers with much caution. A new factory, for example, would mean more work, more wages, and more production, and its construction, therefore, should only be prohibited or delayed with great care. On the other hand, if there were no vacant houses in the district and new labour was likely to be diverted to the factory, with the result that overcrowding might be aggravated, it might be advisable that the building of the new factory, or a portion of it, should be suspended. It is all a question of relative urgency. The Ministry points out that the local authority will find that the difficulty of coming to a decision will be considerably eased if it enters without delay into an arrangement with the building trade of its area for an adequate and sufficient housing programme.

#### The Financial Relations between Architect and Client.

*Country Life*, in its issue of the 17th January, does good service both to the building public and the architectural profession in calling attention to the rise in architects' fees. The writer of the article, taking as a basis the Revised Scale which received the sanction of the Royal Institute in May last and is now in operation, shows the nature of the changes and discusses in general the financial relations between architect and client, over which, he says, a general cloud of ignorance seems to hover. The following is an extract, but members will do well to read the article in its entirety, and to keep it by them for future reference :-

The one thing desirable is for the client to ascertain exactly what his architect proposes to charge him, and whether such charges are inclusive or liable to be increased in certain eventualities.

Several cases have come under our notice where nothing was said either by client or architect when the instructions were given, either through carelessness on the client's side or an assumption by the architect that everyone ought to know that the R.I.B.A. scale of charges existed. In the result discomfort and conflict ensued, in which the architect appealed successfully to the R.I.B.A. scale as the standard of professional charges, but the client was left with a feeling of soreness. If this had been written in 1918

the basis percentage would have been 5 per cent, and other figures also would have been different. It would then have been possible to write of the "customary remuneration" of the architect, but that would not be true of the 1919 scale. It will take time, and probably the rough surgery of the Law Courts, to drive it into clients' minds that architects' fees, like everything else, are "up." A straightforward discussion of the whole matter, followed by an exchange of letters defining what has been agreed, before any work is begun by the architect is the best way to avoid subsequent troubles.

So far these notes have had reference to an architect's work, which may or may not have reached its logical conclusion in the erection of a building, but, nevertheless, represented the carrying out of the specific instructions of his client.

There remains the question—and it is a very difficult question—as to what happens if the client does not know his or her mind? The cases are all too frequent of people who decide to build, let us say, a house costing £3,000. When, after full consultation, the plans have been prepared and have been approved by the client, he will perhaps decide to add a billiard room or two extra bedrooms. The result, probably quite unexpected by the client, will be that the whole scheme of the house needs to be recast, involving not only an entirely new set of plans, but also all the thought which has to be given to the solution of the problem before ever pencil is put to paper. Architects are, in fact, often called upon to design for one site two or three houses instead of one. Being, on the whole, long-suffering and patient people, they very often do it without speaking of extra remuneration. It is obvious, nevertheless, that they are in equity entitled to be paid something extra for doing their work twice over, after the first doing of it has been approved, and a just client will take a liberal view of the case should the architect ask for some extra fees to cover his extra labours. It is worth while to point out what people expect of architects.

As Mr. Filson Young once wrote: "The architect seems to be in a very difficult position. We demand from him the imagination of an artist, the precision of an engineer, and the commercial acumen of a cotton-broker. He is expected to be poetical about gables and practical about drain-pipes." At the same time he has to be an economical administrator and organiser, a confidential and disinterested adviser, and of an integrity above all suspicion. This desirable combination of qualities was hardly likely to be ensured while the profession as a whole was kept down to the starvation line. What architecture owes to the enthusiastic victims who practised it before the war is unknown outside the profession itself. With the increase of the basis from 5 per cent. to 6 per cent., and having regard to the fact that the percentage is now payable on building costs which have at least doubled since the war, the architect is now for the first time on a level with the other professions in the matter of remuneration. Sir Christopher Wren received 5 per cent. on the cost of the City churches. It will be agreed that a rise in the scale was long overdue.

#### Higher Buildings suggested for Central London.

*The Times* recently, in an article dealing with the increasing pressure for accommodation for business purposes in Central London, suggests that the alternative of higher buildings may have to be faced—something intermediate between the larger structures, such

as those in Kingsway, and the "skyscraper." Mr. Delissa Joseph [F.], in a letter to *The Times* supporting the proposal, says:—

Although it may be reasonably maintained that a height of 80 ft. is adequate in thoroughfares not more than 80 ft. in width, it cannot be logically maintained that this is an adequate height in streets of greater width than 80 ft., or in positions where buildings face open spaces, such as Hyde Park and the Green Park, big squares, such as Lincoln's Inn Fields, or the riverside, such as the Thames Embankment.

The Act of 1894 is defective in so far as it is inelastic, and in view of the changed conditions which have arisen in the intervening quarter of a century, the time has arrived for reconsideration of these restrictions.

I submit that no loss of amenity can be experienced if buildings in, say, the Bayswater Road, Kensington Road, Park Lane, Piccadilly, Lincoln's Inn Fields, or the Thames Embankment were permitted to be carried to a greater height than the present 80 ft.

The gain of accommodation thus secured would be enormous, both for business and for residential purposes, and, in course of time, would do something substantial to relieve the pressure for accommodation which is already so acutely felt in Central London, quite apart from the benefit from the additional revenue obtainable from the largely increased assessments which would result.

The present pressure on the accommodation of Central London must go on increasing with the growth of its trade and its population, and with its continual development as the world-centre of business and pleasure: and this problem can only be met by adopting the same policy as has had to be adopted in such cities as New York, by a vertical development.

I am not suggesting that we should adopt the policy of "skyscrapers," although so many of the American buildings are eloquent of what magnificent architectural results can be obtained in this type of building. I am only advocating that the restrictions on the height of buildings should be so modified as to allow buildings of, say, 150 to 200 ft. in height to be erected in suitable open situations, and, if it were feared that under this extension monstrosities might be erected, there could be a provision for the right of approval of the elevations being given to the London County Council, or, better still, to the long-overdue Ministry of Fine Arts. . . . .

It is interesting to note that, on a recent occasion, the First Commissioner of Works himself threw out a suggestion that the time is not far distant when this question might have to receive consideration, and it is obvious that the matter is now one of some urgency, as illustrated by the statements which have recently appeared in the newspapers to the effect that the enterprising Americans who contemplate building on the Aldwych site, and who are anxious to build on the Devonshire House site, both find themselves unable to erect buildings of such height as they have been accustomed to employ in corresponding buildings in their own city.

#### Heating and Ventilating Engineering Research.

Mr. George Hubbard, F.S.A. [F.], has been appointed by the Council to represent the Institute at a Conference called by the Research Committee of the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers to discuss the present position of the department for research work in their branch of engineering which was established at University College in 1911. The conduct of the researches has hitherto been greatly hampered by lack of funds, and the

committee now feel that if the work is to be proceeded with, and its scope extended, it is necessary that it should receive a substantial measure of support not only from its own Institution and Government grants, but also from other organisations interested in the researches. The following is a list of the principal researches now being carried out:—

- (1) Heat transmission through heavy building materials.
- (2) Heat emission from radiators of all types.
- (3) The flow of air up a hot flue.
- (4) The pneumatic resistance of trunks and fittings.
- (5) The flow of water in pipes.

All the above form part of the terms of reference of the Government Department of Scientific and Industrial Research to the Institution Committee. The following are College Department Researches:—

- (6) Fuel economy of kitchen ranges, gas, and electric cookers, etc. (Building Materials Committee).
- (7) The physical effect of different methods of heating a building such as water, gas, and electric heating.
- (8) The resistance of heating batteries in fan-blast heating.
- (9) The efficiency of water boilers.
- (10) The efficiency of fans.
- (11) The flow of low pressure steam through safety valves and other fittings and pipes.
- (12) The design and construction of special instruments for the above and other purposes.

#### Rebuilding Belgium.

It is announced that the Belgian Government have decided to allocate 100,000,000f. in the 1920 Budget for the building of workmen's houses.

This money will be lent to local authorities or approved building societies at a rate of 2 per cent. for 20 years, at the end of which time a new agreement will be entered into. The conditions are:—

1. No loan may exceed half the cost of building or a maximum of £1,000f.
2. The rent charged must not amount to more than 4 per cent. of the total cost of the building.

It is officially calculated that the cost of building in the devastated area will be about 10,000f. per house. A garden city of 100 houses at Roulers was begun on 21st September, and is to be finished in 120 working days.

#### New Government Buildings, Singapore.

The President has been requested by the Crown Agents for the Colonies to advise them on the selection of an architect for the new Government Buildings at Singapore. The successful candidate will be paid a salary of £1,400 \* per annum, with a bonus of £500 at completion of the work for satisfactory service. He will be allowed to select one or two assistants when required at salaries of £700 per annum. An office will be provided, and Government will pay all expenditure for tracers and stationery. His duties will be to design the buildings and prepare the necessary working drawings, specifications, quantities and estimates, let the contracts and superintend the execution of the work. Candidates must be thoroughly qualified as regards design and construction in reinforced concrete. First-class passages out and home for himself and family (not exceeding four persons) will be provided. Full particulars may be obtained of the Crown Agents, Appointments Department, 4, Millbank, S.W.

\* Cost of living is stated as about the same as in England, but taxation is light.



## OBITUARY.

**The late George Richards Julian.**

Mr. G. R. Julian, who passed away at Streatham on 16th December, after a short illness, at the age of 75, was a Devonian, and was the eldest son of George Hanson Julian, architect. He commenced his training in an office in the City of London, and subsequently entered the office of his father, who was engaged on extensive work in Brompton, S.W. After his father's death in 1863, he went to Bath as assistant to Mr. Gill, where the experience gained was chiefly in ecclesiastical work, and Mr. Julian's subsequent work bore strong evidence of the taste for Gothic thus acquired. In 1871 he returned to London as chief assistant to Mr. W. J. Green, in Delahay Street, and during his service there he was engaged upon the designs for Liverpool Street Station (G.E.R.), a large villa at Ostend for the King of the Belgians, and important works at Warnham Court, Sussex, for Mr. Lucas, and a mansion in North Wales for Mr. Pochin.

In 1885 he entered into partnership with Mr. Richard M. Roe at 62 and 63, Basinghall Street, E.C., and amongst the work carried out by the firm the most important was Gort House, at the corner of Mark Lane and Great Tower Street, for the Metropolitan and Metropolitan District Railway Companies. In 1892 the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent, and thereafter Mr. Julian continued to practise independently at the same address until increasing lameness, due to rheumatic trouble, necessitated his retirement from active practice in 1915. His principal work during this last period was the office building, No. 62-65, Charing Cross, S.W., for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

His work throughout gave evidence of a very sound knowledge of design and construction, and was marked by the painstaking care bestowed upon even the smallest details.

Mr. Julian was elected an Associate in 1878, and acted as hon. secretary of the Associates' Committee, formed in 1884 to strengthen the position of the Associates' class—a movement which resulted in the granting of the Charter of 1887. He was one of the first Associate Members of the Council.

He was keenly interested in music and the drama, and frequently, at the Architectural Association and elsewhere, he gave proof of his ability as an amateur actor. He was also an ardent golfer, and during the later years of the war he performed valuable service as hon. secretary for the North Surrey G.C.

Mr. Julian's genial disposition and powers of conversation won him many friends in social as well as in professional circles. He was unmarried.

RICH. M. ROE [F.].

J. CHARLES BOURNE [*Licentiate*].

**The late Edward William Hudson [A.].**

Edward William Hudson, Associate since 1889, who died at Hampstead on the 30th December in his 76th year, had retired from practice. He was originally intended for the profession of civil engineer-

ing, to which he served his time, and he was engaged for seven years on the construction of the Victoria Embankment. His intense love for Gothic architecture led him to study architecture and eventually to practise as an architect, and several large estates developed by him bear evidence to his work, especially at Hampstead and Brighton, where he laid out the ground at Hove. When in his forty-sixth year he sat for the Institute Qualifying Examination, and was elected an Associate in 1889. He was sometime member of the Literature Committee, and until the past few years was a regular attendant and frequent speaker at the Institute meetings and a contributor to the JOURNAL. Late in life, about the year 1906, he went to America and spent some years in the office of a New York firm. Returning after the outbreak of war, he took up munition work near London.

He was a keen antiquary, and devoted much time to the ancient history of the remains of the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem at Clerkenwell, E.C., in conjunction with Mr. W. H. Fincham, an Esquire of the Order. The outcome of his researches is recorded in a series of articles in the JOURNAL under the title of "Holywell Priory, Shoreditch." \*

For assistance rendered to members of the profession in Lille during the war, he was elected Honorary Confrère Member of the Société Régionale des Architectes du Nord de la France, 1919. His War Memorial Scheme, published in the *British Architect* for February 1918, and consisting of the completion of the Victoria Embankment, with Victory statuary on the existing pedestals, and a Place de la Concorde at Charing Cross in conjunction with an Empire Bridge, did not meet with the support he hoped.

Since the Armistice Mr. Hudson had lived in retirement. His son, Mr. Stanley George Hudson, a Fellow of the Institute, practising in South Africa, and the architect of the Town Hall and other public buildings in Durban, combines with his architectural practice the business of a farmer in Zululand.

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**Honours and Appointments.**

On the occasion of the opening by Lord Bryce of the new building for the Faculty of Arts for the Victoria University, Manchester, the architect of the building, Mr. Percy Scott Worthington, M.A. [F.], had conferred upon him the degree of Litt.D., being presented to the Vice-Chancellor by Professor Anderson, Dean of the Faculty of Arts. Other representatives of the Arts similarly honoured on the occasion were Mr. Fisher, the Minister of Education, and Sir Martin Conway.

The appointment has just been made of Lieut. Leslie Rollo, R.E., as assistant in the School of Architecture, Aberdeen. Previous to the war Mr. Rollo was for some time assistant to Sir John Burnet in Glasgow. He holds the Diploma and Travelling Scholarship of the Glasgow School of Architecture, and since the Armistice has been engaged in architectural education work in the Army. The Head of the School is Mr. T. Harold Hughes [A.], A.R.C.A., F.R.G.S.

\* JOURNAL, Vol. IV., 3rd ser. (1897), pp. 237, 431, 469, 488; Vol. V (1898) 75, 175, 234.



## COMPETITIONS.

**Chatham Housing Lay-out Competition.**

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of this Competition are unsatisfactory. The Competitions Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the Competition.

**Bridgewater Housing Competition.****Eastbourne War Memorial Competition.****Ilfracombe Concert Hall Competition.**

Members and Licentiates of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above Competitions because the Conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

By order of the Council.

IAN MACALISTER,

20th January 1920.

Secretary R.I.B.A.

## MINUTES. VI.

At the Sixth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-1920, held Monday, 19th January, 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. E. Guy Dawber, *Vice-President*, in the Chair; 32 Fellows (including 12 members of the Council), 44 Associates (including 2 members of the Council), 8 Licentiates, and numerous Students and visitors—the Minutes of the Meeting held 5th January, having been published in the *JOURNAL*, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The decease was announced of Henry Denison Walton, *Licentiate*, and on the motion of Mr. Arthur Keen, *Hon. Secretary*, a vote of condolence was passed to his relatives.

Charles Geoffrey Boutcher (Kedah), *Fellow*, attending for the first time, was formally admitted by the Chairman.

Mr. Halsey Ricardo [*F.*] having read a Paper on CITIZENSHIP, a discussion ensued, and on the motion of Mr. C. Stanley Peach [*F.*], seconded by Professor W. R. Lethaby [*F.*], a vote of thanks was passed to the author by acclamation, and responded to.

The Deed of Award of Prizes and Studentships, 1920, made by the Council under the Common Seal, was read by the Secretary, and the sealed envelopes bearing the mottoes of the successful competitors were opened and the names disclosed.

The Meeting separated at 10 o'clock.

A vacancy exists for an ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMAN in the Federal Drawing Office, Public Works Department, Federated Malay States. Candidates, aged 23-30, preferably single, must be fully trained architectural draughtsmen, with at least six years' training in the office of a practising architect of standing, and must be fully qualified in building construction and design, and able to take out quantities and prepare full working drawings, details and specifications. Salary, 350 dollars a month, rising 10 dollars annually to 450 dollars. Address, in the first place, The Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

AN ARCHITECT (Licentiate R.I.B.A.), having a large experience in domestic and housing work, wishes to consider partnership proposal, or would take appointment as chief assistant with a view to eventual partnership. Twenty years' all-round experience. London preferred. Write F. G. D., c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

## NOTICES.

**"DAILY MAIL" IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.**

R.I.B.A. CONFERENCE, FEB. 4—FEB. 6, 1920.

**Opening, February 4th.**

3 p.m.—The Exhibition will be opened at 3 p.m. by H.R.H. PRINCESS ALICE, COUNTESS OF ATHLONE.

3.30 p.m.—Opening of the R.I.B.A. Conference.

Chairman—SIR ASTON WEBB, P.R.A.

ADDRESS by The Rt. Hon. Dr. C. ADDISON, P.C., M.P., Minister of Health, supported by

The Rt. Hon. Viscount ASTOR.

Sir KINGSLEY WOOD, M.P.

Major HARRY BARNES, M.P.

Mr. BERNARD HOLLAND, L.C.C.

Mr. OSCAR WARBURG, L.C.C.

**First Day's Conference, February 5th—Lectures:—**

10.30 a.m.—"The Financial Aspect of the Housing Problem."

11.45 a.m.—"The Difficulty of Obtaining Contracts."

2.30 p.m.—"The House Beautiful."

3.45 p.m.—"The Preservation of Old Cottages and Villages."

**Second Day's Conference, February 6th—Lectures:—**

10.30 a.m.—"Difficulties of Transport and Materials."

11.45 a.m.—"Economies in Planning and in the Employment of New Materials."

2.30 p.m.—"Housing from the Working Man's Point of View."

3.45 p.m.—"New Houses and the New Social Order."

**General Meeting (Ordinary), Monday, 2nd February**

A GENERAL MEETING (ORDINARY) will be held Monday, 2nd February, at 8.30 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held 19th January; to announce the names of candidates recommended for admission; formally to admit Members and Licentiates attending for the first time since their election.

The PRESIDENT, Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, to deliver an ADDRESS TO STUDENTS and present the Prizes.

Mr. ARTHUR J. DAVIS [*F.*] to read a CRITICISM OF THE DESIGNS AND DRAWINGS submitted for Prizes and Studentships, 1920.

LONDON ARCHITECT [A.R.I.B.A.], who has to give up his present offices in March, desires accommodation with one able to assist him for the present in his work, and later on to take over his practice. Apply Box 2120, c/o The Secretary, R.I.B.A.



## ADDRESS TO STUDENTS.

Delivered by the PRESIDENT, MR. JOHN W. SIMPSON. *Membre Corr. de l'Institut de France*, at the General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Monday, 2nd February, 1920.

*"Sperne puer neque tu choros,  
Dum cirenti cavities abest  
Morosa."* — HOR. *Carm.* I. ix.

IT is a common saying that "we are all students," and, like many commonplaces, it holds more truth than it conveys to those whose perception of its full meaning is dulled by its repetition. To be a student is to have continual freshness of enjoyment; we learn our page, and before it lies ever another leaf to turn in the endless book, with the pleasant anticipation of what it may reveal. The revelation, it is true, may disappoint and sadden us, yet it is but a passage, and if we read it aright as honest students, we learn from its bitterness to taste the true savour of the beauty which follows it. Even should the next page repeat the hard lesson, its predecessor has helped us to experience, and we spell its meaning with a good heart. And to us, who study the greatest of all writings, the wondrous chapters of the Life of Art, there comes, in howsoever humble a degree, something of immortality. We slake our thirst at the well of knowledge, and find that—like the fontaine de Jouvence—it has renewed our youth.

It is no light thing to address one's younger fellow-students—"maxima debetur puero reverentia," said Juvenal—age brings doubt as well as confidence; and while grey-beards may properly discuss between themselves the adjustment of ancient landmarks, to spread distrust of their accuracy may leave those who follow without helpful guidance for their progress. Art, too, has been talked about as long as it has been practised, and I never heard that much good came thereby, unless to the talker. Yet the subject is inexhaustible, and the temptation great. Your Artist, I take it, has always in him the makings of an Evangelist, and though he is for the most part dumb and inarticulate (save in the company of his fellows, when he is inaudible!) he is yet privately conscious that he, and he alone, possesses the true secret and talisman by which greatness may be achieved. Nor is his belief shaken by the lamentable shortcomings of his own accomplishment; for that, says he, shall be amended in the next work undertaken, whereof the success is, by him, undoubted.

You are all, it is safe to assume, excellent designers. You have but newly begun, and have already learned—not perhaps without some private surprise—how delightfully easy is the art you have

embraced. Later, you may encounter more difficulty. I would not discourage you for worlds, but I may confide to you that in my early days I was myself an extremely accomplished and facile designer! As years went on the gift seemed to forsake me; it became less and less easy to please myself—to say nothing of others; and I have now come to regard any architect, who can put up a building that is reasonably satisfactory, both within and without, as very nearly akin to a genius. So, while I still cherish the hope of doing one day something meritorious, I can claim for the present no more than a chastened humility, and some practical experience which is very much at your service.

For one thing I am sincerely grateful. I had the happy chance, in early life, of living in the intimacy of painters and sculptors, and knowing their work and their methods; I counsel you all to seek such society. Your own work may not interest them much, for the Painter is apt to look askance at architecture, as a thing of which he knows nothing, and is not particularly anxious to know anything; while the Sculptor seems to hold—as Dogberry did of writing and reading—that it comes by nature. (“give God thanks, and make no boast of it;”). To mollify any students of these arts who may be in our company to-night, I may add that, as regards the average Architect’s appreciation of the canons which govern painting and sculpture, it is not too much to say that the thought of them has never entered his mind.

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These reflections bring to me a doubt I have often expressed, as to whether our narrowly specialised education in art is not radically unsound. Why is it we no longer find among us men who are adepts in painting or sculpture, or both—to say nothing of the *Ars Poetica*—as well as in architecture? Since the three sister arts demand in all essential respects the same attainments of manual skill and appreciation of beauty, joined with the poetic and creative temperament, a common initial training is surely indicated for the study of all three. This, which in my student days was impracticable, owing to the prevalent and time-honoured system of apprenticeship to a single Master, would now mean no more than a fusion of the schools that have become as general for architects as for painters and sculptors: and this, as I believe, to our advantage. The elements of technique, such as the handling of material—paint, clay, or what-not—and the habit of mind which enables the artist to realise and design a cube object in plane projections, are best taught in a school. The Master, engaged in the practice of his art, has long forgotten, in the course of daily use which has become an instinct, the difficulties he experienced in acquiring his facility, and the way in which he learned it. The beginner can only wonder at his dexterity without appreciating his qualities, and he himself is out of touch with the tyro’s troubles. There are, of course, men who take infinite trouble with their pupils, but this is, as it were, the cracking of nuts with a steam-hammer. In a school all the elementary difficulties are constant, and both teachers and students ascertain quickly the readiest means of surmounting them; proceeding to successive stages of interest wherein practice brings improved technical ability. An active emulation, too, is far more keenly developed where many are working than where there are but one or two: and students learn even more from their own mutual failures than from the teachers’ instruction.

My choice, therefore, for the budding artist is a school rather than apprenticeship: and I would have students begin, each and all, with the representation of existing objects in geometric projection, in plastic material, and in line and colour. Having attained, in each method, some satisfactory degree of proficiency—whether tested by formal examination or not is unimportant—they would move into the class of design. There they should practise the elements of Composition, rendered, as before, in the medium of each of the more important materials pertaining to the three great art divisions with which they are concerned. Here we may leave them, for the present, to reach a certain standard of ability. Already there will have been a weeding-out; some at any rate, realising their small chance of becoming reasonably efficient, and adopting other pursuits. The survivors will have found, by actual experience, the medium in which they can most readily express their ideas; and proceed, as now, to the higher technique of the art for which they are best qualified. The Architects will have gained

freedom and courage in the handling of mass, the others will be the better Sculptors and Painters for such glimmering as they may have caught of the suggestive beauties of a fine plan.

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Now, though I have praised the School as most valuable in the early stages of our professional training, I would also warn you not to mistake the means for the end ; not to stay there too long. If you remain all your life you will still not have finished your education in our art. Therefore, so soon as you have acquired fairly good technique, hire yourself as assistant or "improver" to a practising architect, and get to work on actual buildings, no matter how small or unimportant. I remember, when first I came to London (with the usual bundle of drawings under my arm), calling upon a well-known architect. He received me kindly, but, "my dear fellow," he said, "I have little use for highly qualified assistance ; so much of my work is mere building, not architecture at all ! " I beg you not to accept any such fallacy. All building is architecture, however simple it may be, or appears to be. Some of it, we know, is very bad : that is the fault of the designer ; there is always opportunity for doing it well instead of badly, and, it is more than likely, of saving your client's pocket at the same time.

The tendency of modern educational methods is to prolong the period of training, to demand ever higher attainment before releasing the student for his life's work. We may assume, generally, ten years as occupied by preparatory and secondary studies,\* and to these may be added three more for a university course. A good general education is of the utmost importance to those who propose to enter our profession : I would not abate it by a single line. But, here we are come to the age of twenty or twenty-one, before we attack the four or five years' technical study which is to carry us through our qualifying examinations. And there is talk of lengthening this term. I have myself just suggested a change which would hardly tend to shorten it, though I think the preliminary work I indicated might well form the basis for secondary school, certainly for university, art instruction.

It is a question for grave consideration whether prolongation of school training is justified by its results when tested by the meter of economic production. Is the fuller equipment, with which we begin our professional life, altogether a compensation for the youthful freshness we have spent in fashioning it ? Education is a hobby with educators : they look with natural pride upon the ever improving quality of their handiwork, and seek for it a still higher perfection. Yet, we are to remember that our working time is tragically short, and by no means to be extended ; it is easy to lop off years of preparation at its beginning, there is no hope to clap on others at its end to replace them. And it is just those early years which are fullest of vigour, imagination and daring—qualities most needful to the artist : for he who attacks a great problem of architecture must do so with the confident courage that inspires air-pilots and destroyer-captains, in their not less hazardous enterprises.

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It is curious to note how much earlier than we our forefathers set about the active exercise of their professions. Looking back to the seventeenth century ; the biographer of Gassion tells us that he had so profited by his studies in the humanities and philosophy that, at sixteen years of age, he was a finished scholar. He knew, besides, several modern languages—Flemish, German, Italian and Spanish. Nor had he anything of the weakling bookworm. There was fighting in the Savoy : he tramped four hundred miles afoot across France, enlisted as a common soldier, gained his commission by sheer merit, was a colonel at twenty-two, and by thirty-four years of age had become Marshal of France. Before him, Arnauld d'Andilly is a still more surprising example. He had become a good Latinist and Grecian under his father's tuition, but, at ten years old, it was thought he should begin more practical studies : his day was accordingly divided into two (it began at 4 a.m. !), and the afternoon devoted to preparation for his official duties. When he was eleven he entered first one, and then another, of the State departments of Finance and, at sixteen, was himself in charge of a public Service, and admitted to the King's

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\* *v. Modern Studies*. (Report of the Leathes Committee on Modern Languages, 1918.)

Council. Omer Talon—I take these French instances because they lie ready to my hand—was reputed at eighteen, not only a classic scholar of the first class, but profoundly versed in the very complicated Law of his time. He was already admitted to the Bar, began to plead, and became famous forthwith. Nor need we seek examples outside our own time and country. Sir Charles Barry was in practice at twenty-five, having already spent five years in travelling abroad. Elmes was twenty-one when he took the competition for St. George's Hall. Pugin, when he died, at forty years of age, had already built sixty-five churches in the United Kingdom alone, to say nothing of those in the Colonies, or of monasteries, convents, schools and, incidentally, of his work at the Houses of Parliament.

The names I have mentioned are those of exceptional men—though there are many more to the point: our technical education is directed to the requirements of the average, and the level of this has admittedly been raised during the last twenty years; doubtless a considerable achievement. But we must beware of attaching too great importance to it. One fine work, after all said, is worth more to a nation than five hundred a little better than bad; and that the men I have spoken of were producing masterpieces at an age when our students devote their energy to endless examinations, is matter for reflection. The age at which the youth of a nation begins to take part in its work is no matter for indifference, says Arvède Barine\*: at thirty we have no longer the thoughts and inspirations we had at twenty, and, to quote R. L. Stevenson, "if youth is not quite right in its opinions, there is a strong probability that age is not much more so. A man finds he has been wrong at every preceding stage of his career, only to deduce the astonishing conclusion that he is at last entirely right."

A last word on this subject, and I will leave it. The value of the prizes and studentships we offer, the ambition of the subjects set, and the really astonishing degree of proficiency demanded to win them, tend to raise the age of competitors and to lengthen their school training. The magnificent productions of the French winners of the Prix de Rome are a glory to the Académie des Beaux-Arts: to gain the prize is to be made for life: but there is another side to the picture. So high is the standard of accomplishment needed that it is rarely won before the age of thirty, and that after three, four, five, or more successive years of struggle. What of the sacrifice of time by the unsuccessful in this purely scholastic competition? Even in our own less strenuous tourneys, I suspect that scrutiny of the lists of chief prize-winners might reveal a disheartening proportion of men who, having shot their bolt and scored a gold, were left with an empty quiver for more serious strife. It is undesirable that a deceptive excellence should be maintained in prize work; the object of such competitions is to stimulate all students, and the purpose of the award is to encourage the tyro best fitted to profit by its provisions, not to glorify him who has the advantage of longer practice. For this reason I think the qualifying limit of age should be kept low; twenty-five, at the outside.

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I had thought of devoting my Address—or some part of it—to the "Rectangles and whirling squares," wherewith Professor Jay Hambidge, aided by the ingenious "A.B.W.," has lately been edifying readers of *The Times*. It seemed, however, impracticable to do justice to the subject without the aid of diagrams and drawings and, perhaps, a discussion, which, if not unprofitable, would be untimely on this occasion; later on we may induce Mr. Hambidge himself to be good enough to expound to us his theories. It is always amusing to take our toys to pieces and try to find out how they are made; the trouble is that though we can dissect, we cannot resurrect. However fascinating may be the attempt to trace out a common denominator for the arts, and to formulate their component factors, the process does not greatly advance our practical studies: science may succeed in analysing a work of art, but when it comes to making one the corresponding synthesis results only in "Ersatz." The dynamic part of artistic conception, as of all other creation, is the subtle, mysterious element called "life," and this no mathematical formula, no geometric combination, will produce. When Milton invokes "the

\* *La Jeunesse de la Grande Mademoiselle*. Paris, 1905.

hidden soul of harmony," and Gray meditates the "animated bust," the terms they use are not only poetic but precise.

Let us turn for a moment to what Guadet—perhaps the greatest of all our teachers—says about those didactics of the Renaissance period, who thought that in "modules" lay the theory of the marvels they admired. "They searched the ruins," says he, "and discovered—the accursed Vitruvius!" "An indifferent writer, probably an indifferent architect—if he was an architect—Vitruvius had left a more or less approximate collection of the rules of Greek architecture. Living at a period remote from the origin of that art, his were, nevertheless, the sole surviving writings on architecture, and, in default of criticism, the sixteenth century accepted them for truth, as it accepted everything written in Latin. The Renaissance authors, Alberti, Vignola, Palladio, De l'Orme—all great artists—followed him down the road of architectural arithmetic. Superstition followed: the Académie Royale d'Architecture, in its early days, proclaimed the supremacy of Vitruvius, made him a sort of Father of the artistic Church: the triumph of the module was almost an article of faith. The module, or controversies about it, held chief place in teaching, and, strange to relate, ciphering became sovereign in the world of art. Even to-day many believe architecture to be an arithmetical art, a code of rigid mathematical formulæ." "Ah, no!" cries Guadet, "architecture is no science of numbers; it is an art!"

Search for the mystic number of perfect symmetry is no new thing. Plato believed it to be ten, the anti-Platonists insisted it was six; William of Wykeham—according to Cockerell—based his designs for the Chapels at Winchester and Oxford on seven; Professor Hambidge pins his faith to the root-five rectangle and 2.236. In Gwilt's Encyclopædia, published in 1842, you will find the efforts of Cresy, Chantrell, Papworth, and their contemporaries, to fit buildings into squares, circles, triangles, or other geometric figures, which, like the bed of Procrustes, are always too small or too large for their occupants. You will find there, also, the principles of perfect and harmonious design as set forth in the "Songe de Poliphile," an Aldine of 1499. These result in a singularly ill-proportioned archway, of which the author complacently remarks: "After understanding this figure, I thought within myself, what can modern architects do, who esteem themselves so learned, without letters or principles?" Vitruvius, you will remember, declares that "the square includes the human figure, either lying down or standing in an erect posture, the arms being stretched out." When I was a pupil, it was the custom to test the proportions of any newcomer to my father's office by this Vitruvian principle; he was stretched upon the floor, and the true centre of his body having been found with one leg of a compass—as nearly as his struggles would allow—a string was extended from this centre to his head, his toes, and the tips of his outstretched fingers. So far as I remember none proved to be of perfect Grecian symmetry!

Mr. Hambidge is also applying his rectangles to the human figure, so that the symmetry of students will, perhaps, be proved henceforward by another method. I hope it may not be more distressing to the subject. However that may be, he is certainly on safe ground in co-ordinating the proportions of architecture with those of our bodies. The reason is simple: all art is, perforce, imitative: we can imagine nothing outside the narrow limit of our senses. Be it god, monster, or building, we invest it with the attributes of our own nature; and our own form being, as we are pleased to consider, divinely admirable, it is inevitable that its symmetry should influence that of our structures. Thus Classic column and Gothic pier alike, are endowed with head, trunk, and foot: and the geometrical figure of the Latin cross is clearly derived from that of the victim for whom it was prepared. I add the caution not to confuse the word "imitation" with "transcript"—an error which has betrayed more than one theorist.

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Architecture is an exacting mistress. She will tolerate no rivals: beware how you take her to yourself if you have not strength to be faithful. Like a mistress, her pleasure is capricious; therefore be not discouraged by disappointment, for when you expect it least she will show her tenderest favour.

Only to her lovers is disclosed the elusive beauty of her symmetry, and they, like Psyche, may not know its secret. But there is, perhaps, a clue to the mystery in one of Bain's translations of the Hindoo love stories.\* "In the beginning," he tells us, "when Twashtri came to the creation of woman, he found that he had exhausted his materials in the making of man, and that no solid elements were left. In this dilemma, after profound meditation, he did as follows: he took the rotundity of the moon, and the curves of creepers, and the clinging of tendrils, and the trembling of grass, and the slenderness of the reed, and the bloom of flowers, and the lightness of leaves, and the tapering of the elephant's trunk, and the glances of deer, and the clustering of rows of bees, and the joyous gaiety of sunbeams, and the weeping of clouds, and the fickleness of the winds, and the timidity of the hare, and the vanity of the peacock, and the softness of the parrot's bosom, and the hardness of adamant, and the sweetness of honey, and the cruelty of the tiger, and the warm glow of fire, and the coldness of snow, and the chattering of jays, and the cooing of doves; and compounding all these together he made woman, and gave her to man."

Ladies and gentlemen: the art of Architecture is no less complex, no less mysterious, no less alluring to those who give their hearts to it, than Eve—its first, divinest model.

J. W. S.

### VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT.

SIR EDWARD BUSK, Chairman of Convocation of the University of London: The task which falls to me is so easy as practically to be superfluous. At the same time, it is one to which I feel I cannot do justice. It is to express our thanks to our distinguished President for the beautiful Address to which we have just listened. And following upon what he said, there is a considerable consolation arising in my mind. For many years past I have deplored the passing of apprenticeship; I have thought it was a great loss to certain crafts, and perhaps also to the arts. But the arguments of our President have convinced me that if there should be a loss in that direction there has been a considerable gain in the passing of instruction of all kinds from one master to one pupil to the conveyance of education in a school, with many pupils and teachers and definite instruction. The advantage is, I think, manifold, now that the distinction has been placed clearly before my eyes. There is arising among students in the same class a feeling of just and chivalrous emulation, which, after all, is only the love of social life turned the other way about. There is the great advantage that the student of a particular subject mingles with other students not only of his own subject and of those subjects which are akin to it, but also with students of different subjects, so that in his youth he gets to understand that the walk of life which he has himself chosen—and which he is probably going to adorn and distinguish—is not the only legitimate source of occupation and of distinction. The University to which I have the honour to belong has felt that architecture itself ought to be treated in an academic manner, and has established in the last few years a School of Architecture at University College, where the students are in close communication with the students in painting and drawing at the Slade School, with those who are studying sculpture

and archaeology, and not only with those, but also with students in engineering. And when I come, as a rank outsider, sir, to your profession, to see the enormous amount and the varied character and the kind of knowledge which an architect ought to possess. I can see that there are, in this profession, even additional advantages in his studying where there are students in cognate arts, even in so separate a subject as engineering. He has to know certainly a good deal of mathematics, although mathematics will not enable him to produce works of art. Even to study the masterpieces of past ages he has to study the history of Ancient, Mediæval, and Renaissance art, and also to study modern architecture. He has also to deal with a number of material difficulties which do not face the painter or the singer or the musician. He has to deal with all kinds of materials, their quantitative stresses and strains, he has to deal with climate; he has particularly to deal with soil. We know a building will not stand if it is not on a good foundation. I have been told of a man who has recently been building erections in Chicago and complained to the architect as to the cost of the foundations. Chicago is built upon a swamp, and all the buildings are erected upon concrete rafts or floats; and this architect said to him, "Yes, I can reduce the cost of the foundations, but the result, sir, will be that in ten years' time you will be able to step straight out of your twentieth floor into the street!" We have not yet gone to twenty floors in London, I think: if I mistake not, an Act of Parliament was passed in consequence of the erection of the Queen Anne Mansions to prevent the construction of such buildings as I have mentioned. But there is a great deal of talk now about open spaces, and buildings running up, as I think they do now in New York, to the 50th floor. If that should be the case here I should not be surprised if architects

\* *Rasakôsha's Story* ("A Digit of the Moon," Methuen, London, 1910).



meet with even greater difficulties than they have had to deal with up to the present. But when we have had all this, as it seems to me, the artist in architecture has to meet with a very great difficulty: he cannot erect his buildings with his own hands, he has to deal with builders and with workmen of all kinds, and without them he cannot bring about his work of art. And there, I think, comes in the necessary knowledge of sheer business. When all has been done by the school which can be done, it is clear, I think, that the pupil, so prepared with knowledge of what has been done in the past, should study his profession, or he will never be able to produce a work of art. Soundness of construction and adaptability to its uses is as nothing unless the building expresses the thought. It is, as Browning said, that out of three sounds the artist frames not a fourth sound, but a star. And that must be brought about, it seems to me, entirely by the individual growth of the young man's mind and genius, and by his catching inspiration from those around him who have succeeded in the profession. I confess, sir, I owe you my personal thanks for the weight of your arguments to-night, and the enlightenment they have given me, and I am sure we most cordially thank you for your most clear and eloquent address.

SIR STANLEY LEATHES, K.C.B., of the Civil Service Commission: I am neither an artist nor an architect, except in so far as I claim to be an artist in the use of words. I fully recognise the effort which has a necessary relation to attaching facts to the requisite proportions, but I believe that all those proportions exist in our minds and in reality, and material relations are subject to the mind. Therefore I approve this evening's debate because it shows how the mind relates to the architect's task in relation to materials. And I have particular joy in congratulating your President on the admirable address that he has made, and I hope that you will join with me in my most sincere congratulations.

The PRESIDENT: Ladies and gentlemen, I am

extremely indebted to you for your thanks, and more particularly to my old friend Sir Edward Busk, the Vice-Chairman of Convocation in the University, and to Sir Stanley Leathes, the Arch-Examiner of all England, for the kindly things they have said. I owe a word to the ladies, who are so good as to grace our meeting to-night with their presence. I told only one part of the scandalous tale about their creation; it is due to the element of intelligent inquiry, vulgarly called "curiosity" (omitted, perhaps, by the Hindoo poet as common to both sexes!) that I should give them the end of the story. It runs thus:—

After Twashtri had completed and handed over his work, Man, he tells us, came back to him after only one week, and said: Lord, this creature which you have given me makes my life miserable. She chatters incessantly, and teases me beyond endurance, never leaving me alone; and she requires continual attention: she takes up all my time, and cries about nothing, and is always idle; and so I have come to give her back again, as I cannot live with her. So Twashtri said, Very well, and he took her back. Then, after another week, Man came again to him, and said: Lord, I find that my life is very lonely since I gave you back that creature. I remember how she used to dance and sing to me, and look at me out of the corner of her eye, and play with me, and cling to me; and her laughter was music, and she was beautiful to look at and soft to touch; so give her back to me again. So Twashtri said, Very well: and gave her back again. Then, after only three days, Man came back to him again and said: Lord, I know not how it is; but after all, I have come to the conclusion she is more of a trouble than a pleasure to me: so please take her back again. Twashtri said: Out on you! Be off! I will have no more of this. You must manage how you can. Then Man said: But I cannot live with her. And Twashtri replied: Neither could you live without her. And he turned his back on Man and went on with his work. Then Man said: What is to be done? for I cannot live either with her or without her.

## REVIEW OF THE DESIGNS AND DRAWINGS SUBMITTED FOR PRIZES AND STUDENTSHIPS, 1919-20. By ARTHUR J. DAVIS [*F.*].

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—It was not without a certain amount of hesitation that I accepted the Council's invitation to criticise the Students' designs this evening. The critic's task, easy as it may appear, is nevertheless hardly a sympathetic one, as it must always seem to the Student that the holder of this office demolishes in a few moments the result of months of thought and patient toil. It is, however, the custom of the Institute to ask one of its members to fulfil this task, and this year I have been made the victim.

### SOANE MEDALLION.

The most important competition in design in England is undoubtedly the Soane Medallion, given by this Institute, and great distinction attaches to the Student who wins it. The problem set this year, namely a bridge over a wide river, might have appeared to some a purely theoretical subject hardly ever likely to be carried into execution. There are, however, very few large capital cities and towns in Europe to-day where such problems are not being studied, and I should like to congratulate the Council on having chosen a programme which is a distinct element in modern town-planning. It is obvious that the most important feature in a bridge is its function as a roadway. The traffic problem is therefore an all-important one, and the planning conception both of the bridge itself and of its approaches must be such that it solves the traffic difficulty without congestion and in a direct and straightforward manner.

The winning design, by Mr. Shoosmith, emphasises many of these essential points. The roads on the more important side of the river converge naturally to the bridge entrances. There is ample space for vehicles to cross and re-cross, and the buildings which form the vista at the end of the bridge are well-designed for their purpose. Moreover, these buildings are skilfully grouped and their mass does not throw the bridge out of scale: also they are not designed as independent groups without relation to the bridge.

It was, however, a pity that Mr. Shoosmith, after having so carefully thought out his traffic problem, should have added a perfectly unnecessary feature which, in my opinion, goes far to destroy the essential qualities for which he seems to have aimed. I am alluding to the Triumphal Arch which at one end spans the roadway and which would make the bridge, during hours when the congestion was greatest, a bottle-neck at the point where it is erected. I can hardly imagine the pedestrian traffic struggling through the narrow openings in the piers of the arch, and Mr. Shoosmith has criticised this point in a far sterner manner than I have in his own design, as he shows two sections through the bridge, one with the arch and the other without, and I am sure that all will agree that the effect of the latter is in every way preferable. It may be urged that similar arches are a feature of some of the best of the old bridges; but I think it will generally be found that these structures were purely military in use, being erected for purposes of defence and therefore not required in a modern design such as we are dealing with to-night. On the other hand, if a triumphal approach to the bridge were found to be essential, I think the problem could be solved by pilons or features on either side of the entrances, as in the Pont Alexandre, Paris, and these need not in any way impede or obstruct the traffic: but, if such features are introduced, I think it is essential that they should be placed on both sides of the bridge for reasons which I will now explain.

After the traffic problem, the next important consideration is the view of the bridge from the river and the side embankments. Apart from their natural beauty, most navigable rivers are useful thoroughfares, and, with the development of the motor in connection with water-transport, it is quite possible that they may become a means of relieving some of the congestion in the streets. The pro-

gramme states that the width of the river to be spanned is 800 feet, and these dimensions indicate an important water thoroughfare. All successful bridges are designed to be effective from the water-level and the side quays. The maximum number of arches given in the programme was five, but I do not think this should have prevented the competitors from considering whether a bridge with a fewer number of openings would not have been a more practical and a more modern solution of this problem. Moreover, the aspect of the bridge from the river and from the quays appears to disadvantage owing to the unfortunate addition of the above-mentioned triumphal arch, as the two sides do not balance.

The approaches from the bridge level to the quay side are a vital feature, but the two huge masses of steps leading from the upper to the lower quays are unnecessarily important and if introduced at all should have discharged on to a quay at least four times the size shown. These steps are entirely out of scale with the remainder of the composition.

Generally speaking, in designing bridges, buildings and retaining walls on a riverside, broad masses and horizontal lines should be maintained and should predominate to harmonise with the flowing, horizontal lines of the water. Chambers's design for Somerset House is an excellent example of a riverside building and illustrates this point admirably.

The author (Mr. G. A. Rose) of the design which receives an Honourable Mention shows that he has given his problem a great deal of consideration and has produced a very interesting set of drawings; but his solution of the traffic problem and his general lay-out are not nearly so successful as that of the winning design. He brings his traffic safely over the bridge and then drops it into a decorative pond. Even if it escapes this fate its subsequent course is not clearly defined. A water-treatment in the position shown might have been more satisfactory had it been placed much farther back, with a wide circular "Place" in front. Too much importance is given in this design to the buildings and not enough to the bridge. The scale of the bridge is small and the treatment is somewhat monotonous: the shape of the arches is not as pleasing as one would expect in a structure of this importance. The access to the lower quays in this scheme, in contrast to that of the winning design, is too insignificant, and the buildings, which have occupied so large a part of the author's attention, if interesting, are nevertheless open to criticism. Towers grow from the roofs without any introduction or visible base and in such a position are illogical and unsatisfactory. They introduce hard, vertical masses which conflict unpleasantly with the horizontal lines which the author rightly seems to have thought should predominate in his design. The scale of his buildings is so large that it dwarfs the bridge itself, while the treatment of the detail is in many parts coarse and heavy at the top and feeble at the base. Semi-circular recesses in buildings adjoining a quay are unsatisfactory. Such features should only be used where an axial approach is possible and should form the end of a vista.

#### TITE PRIZE.

The second competition in importance is that known as the Tite Prize. The programme in this case might have been more definite. The Prize has been deservedly won by Mr. P. H. Meldrum, and his composition and drawing show considerable merit. Mr. Meldrum has not missed the opportunity of showing how a sun-lit building can be designed in broad masses. He has relied entirely on his shadows and surrounding setting to produce a simple and most effective result. The very word "Loggia" suggests southern climes and therefore it was quite permissible in this instance to introduce a style such as we see so successfully evolved in southern countries. He has realised that a "Loggia" should be sheltered and protected and designed so that it will not obstruct views of the garden. It is possible to imagine readers obtaining books from the Library over this "Loggia" and getting increased enjoyment in reading them from the effect of trees, water and scenery visible through the arches. The series of niches shown in plan take up space and are somewhat monotonous, without giving any corresponding practical advantage. It would have been more satisfactory to have designed one central niche and two different side features, or a niche at either end and a different central feature. The

library has been somewhat sacrificed to the Loggia, though assuredly the author was right in making the Loggia the more important.

Mr. V. O. Rees is given second place and presents a much more ambitious scheme. The library is dwarfed even more than in the winning design and the architectural treatment, although well studied in the character demanded, is altogether too heavy for its purpose; even from a practical point of view the size of the piers would interfere seriously with the views of the garden. The Loggia is so arranged that views can be obtained from both sides, but while this method of planning has some advantages, the Loggia would be exposed and the draughts would interfere with the comfort of those using it.

The design submitted under the device of a Mask deserves notice. It has an extremely clever plan which obtains all the advantages of a view from each side without losing the necessary protection and comfort of enclosing walls. The library, although not shown on plan, appears to be better lit than in either the first or second designs and the graceful architectural and decorative treatment, if somewhat frivolous, is distinctly interesting.

Most of the other competitors have failed to grasp the essential character of a Loggia and have designed instead a vestibule or covered entrance.

#### MEASURED DRAWINGS MEDAL.

This prize has been won by Mr. A. F. E. Poley, who presents an extremely interesting and valuable record of the finest work of our greatest architect; and his measured drawings of the west front of St. Paul's represent a large amount of study which is deserving of great praise. Mr. Poley's draughtsmanship is accurate but rather hard and unconvincing, and does not quite convey the charm and freedom which are the special characteristics of Wren's work. This is due mainly, I think, to the hard and unskilful washes which he has applied and which greatly detract from the effect of his work. I suggest that the author should study rendering and brush-work, and meanwhile he might perhaps remove the washes from his studies, leaving them as an interesting set of line drawings.

#### PUGIN STUDENTSHIP.

The drawings of Mr. H. St. John Harrison submitted for the Pugin Competition are very able. The essentials of sketching are well understood and the buildings treated are dealt with sympathetically and in an interesting manner. The necessary architectural qualities of the buildings are carefully delineated without losing in draughtsmanship the artistic feeling of a pencil or pen-and-ink sketch, so that the actual drawing is at the same time an attractive picture and a good architectural subject.

#### OWEN JONES STUDENTSHIP.

The Owen Jones Prize for colour design has been won by Mr. G. F. Quarmby, who shows some studies of stained glass, cretonnes and mosaic and other work not strictly necessary to the production of good architecture.

#### GRISSELL GOLD MEDAL.

The "Grissell" Gold Medal for a water-tower in ferro-concrete, won by Mr. Frank H. Heaven, is almost more allied to engineering than to architecture and I do not think comes under the scope of this criticism.

I hope the Students will forgive me for some of my harsh criticisms, and I should like to congratulate the winners and also to commend the industry of the others, who have, I am sure, learned a great deal even though they have not been successful in winning a prize.

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## REVIEWS.

## JERUSALEM.

*A brief description of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem, and other Christian Churches in the Holy City, with some account of the Mediæval copies of the Holy Sepulchre surviving in Europe. By George Jeffery, F.S.A., Architect. With 59 illustrations and plans. 8vo. Lond. 1919. 10s. 6d. net. (Cambridge University Press, Fetter Lane, E.C.).*

This is an excellent book with much new material. Without wasting precious print in mere comment I will venture to discuss a few points, although I shall probably be wrong when I don't see my way to agree with one who is an expert.

*Anastasis and Basilica.*—The sacred tomb was small and probably something like the well-known tomb of Absalom. Closely associated with it was a large basilican church with its façade to the East, which was built during the reign of Constantine, when also the tomb was restored. At some time a rotunda was erected about the tomb proper, and there is some possibility of confusion between the central tomb itself and this larger building containing it, for both may be spoken of as "the Anastasis." Mr. Jeffery seems independently to have suggested that the Anastasis and the Basilica were represented on the apse mosaic of St. Pudentiana, Rome, c. 390 (such a theory was first published by Ainaloff: see Dalton's *Byz. Archaeology*). If the mosaic represents the tomb, it is shown, as Mr. Jeffery says, "without any idea of proportionate size," unless, indeed, there was a Constantinian rotunda surrounding the little tomb. This view, to which I incline, is, perhaps, supported by the Madeba mosaic, which seems to indicate a round structure beyond the Basilica. However, it is only a hypothesis that the Roman apse mosaic was even intended to suggest these buildings at the Holy Sepulchre. I have lately been studying this mosaic from another point of view, and its subject seems to be the New Jerusalem of the Apocalypse. In the midst Christ is enthroned with a splendid jewelled cross rising behind: in front was the Lamb standing at the source of the four rivers, and above are the four symbolic creatures of Revelation: on either hand of Christ are the Apostles seated as in a choir, and surrounded by an arcade above which appear the buildings mentioned above. Of this Mr. Jeffery says: "on each side of the Cross may be seen the arcades of the atrium" (p. 11). I cannot think that this was indeed even intended for the actual atrium of the Holy Sepulchre, it is rather of semi-circular form and surrounds the redeemed saints like an apse. The mosaic is apocalyptic. A similar architectural background is represented on some of the sculptured sarcophagi (c. 400) which show the glorified Christ enthroned between groups of the blessed. The immense jewelled cross of the mosaic is a symbol rather than a representation of the relic of the true Cross, which appears to have been quite small.

It seems probable to me that some Constantinian rotunda protected the actual tomb. The lady pilgrim formerly called Saint Sylvia, and now identified as Aetheria, an abbess who travelled in the East from 529 to 534, speaks, as Mr. Jeffery notes, of the Anastasis as a "church," and I cannot think that such a super-sacred object as the Holy Tomb itself was not protected by one of those tomb chapels which were so common in the Constantinian age. It is possible that in the representations of the Anastasis found on early ivories, features from the tomb itself and from a surrounding rotunda were telescoped together, for the tomb proper can hardly have had windows and a tiled roof. It is agreed that later, in the seventh century, a circular building existed. Altogether, I still think that some such arrangement as that suggested in *Mediæval Art* is the most probable (see also Strzygowski's *Orient oder Rom und Oriens Christiana*, vol. v.). Some traces of an outer circular wall still exist, which I understand Mr. Jeffery supposes to be part of a Constantinian open enclosure. Such an outer wall seems to be clearly shown on Arculf's plan (c. 700). The whole question is very complicated, but a best possible hypothesis will finally emerge from the controversies.

*The Façade.*—Mr. Jeffery gives a clear account of the remains which formed part of the East front of the Basilica. It consists of some courses of large blocks of masonry, with a large central opening and two lateral openings; also some column pedestals in advance of the wall, and fragments of granite shafts. "The front of the fourth century has no clear connection with the columns, and it seems more than probable that the colonnade has been added at a subsequent period" (p. 56). On a later page (65) he speaks of this as the "seventh century colonnade." From the details given it appears to me that the work in question was rather of the fourth than of the seventh century. The portico had eight columns bounded at either end by a strip of wall having a pilaster termination. The columns stood in line with the outer half of the thickness of this wall, in such a way as to suggest that the columns were originally coupled. Now on p. 64 Mr. Jeffery describes "nine mutilated Corinthian capitals of a debased character, possibly of the seventh century, recently found adjoining the Holy Sepulchre. They are of a plan combining a column attached to a square pier. These capitals have the appearance of having formed part of such a façade: they would fit columns of about 2 feet diameter." Most of these capitals (there was some variation of size, so that they did not all come from one series) seem, from the illustrations, to be Constantinian rather than of the seventh century. Columns set on low pedestals and attached to piers were in common use at the earlier time; granite was also a favourite material for shafts.

*St. Helen's Chapel.*—The crypt called by this name is shown on Mr. Jeffery's plan as being so accurately on the axis of the Basilica that there cannot

be a doubt that the crypt was built in relation to the Basilica. Close beside this crypt is an ancient cistern called "the cross-finding chapel." Some 25 to 30 years since I suggested in the *Palestine Exploration Statement* that the account of the "Invention of the Cross" by the Empress Helen suggested that it must have been carefully lost before it was so conveniently found in the right place under auspicious circumstances, and at the time of the great September fair, which was so suitable for an annual festival. (At the same time I pointed out that, according to Felix Fabri, the sun rose at one season as if out of the Church of the Ascension on the eastern hills, and this fact might be sufficient reason for the localisation of this site.) St. Helen's Chapel, I doubt not, represents a Constantinian crypt which occupied a similar position in regard to the Basilica above it, as the Chapel of the Nativity does to the church at Bethlehem. The Basilica was doubtless built for the cross relics over the holy site of the invention. It seems likely that in early days the relics would have been shown at the centre of the great church over the crypt chapel of St. Helen. Photographs of some 30 years ago showed one or more of the capitals in this chapel to be fine Byzantine works: Mr. Jeffery says they are now "unrecognisable in style."

*The Hemisphere.*—Eusebius, describing the works of Constantine, begins with the Sepulchre, decorated lavishly and having fine columns. Then came a large court; to the East was the great Basilica, having gilt ceiling and a roof covered with lead; on each side were two rows of columns and in front three doors. "Opposite to these was the *hemisphaerum*, the head of the whole church. Round about it were 12 columns, equal in number to the Apostles, each bearing a silver bowl, the gift of the Emperor."

Mr. Jeffery asks whether the *hemisphaerum* mentioned by Eusebius was the circular space surrounding the tomb, or the apse of the adjoining Basilica? It is difficult to think that it could have been either, for, as was long ago pointed out to me by the late Mr. H. Swainson, "hemisphere" is a correct and even a technical term for a cupola (see my little *Medieval Art*, 1904). On the evidence we must suppose that there was a central space, or crossing, above the crypt of St. Helen, and that over this there was some sort of cupola (*cf.* the church in Isauria discovered by Dr. Headlam, and for the plan the Basilica at Bethlehem and the Church at Spoleto; it may be significant that the latter is dedicated to the Crucifix). If we proceed on this assumption, it readily appears that 12 columns bearing silver bowls might form a screen around such a central space for the choir. We are now ready to be reminded that the choir for the singers at St. Sophia was surrounded by free-standing columns in a circle, bearing silver lamps. At last it appears that Constantine's silver bowls could be none other than lamps (*cf.* his gifts of lamps to the Luteran Basilica). The account known as the Breviary confirms the view that the columns and bowls were in

the Basilica. I see I suggested in 1904 that the bowls were lamps. There is a question about the double rows of interior columns, whether they were over one another or formed five aisles. I incline to the latter alternative.

*Constantinian Fragments?*—On p. 94 Mr. Jeffery describes the front of the present S. transept, which is mainly a twelfth century work of a Western type. "The elaborate bracketed cornices to both storeys are thoroughly Provençal in style . . . the cornices are of almost classical style of the earliest Provençal work." These cornices have been claimed as Constantinian by Strzygowski, and, so far as one may judge from the large clear photographs he gave in *Orient oder Rom*, I must say that I think he was right. De Vogüé seems to have been in some doubt when he wrote—"The purity of the lines, the palmettes, eggs and tongues and carved modillions tempt one to think they were taken from some Roman edifice . . . conceived in antique taste." Two fragments of carved mouldings figured by Mr. Jeffery (figs. 13 and 19) seem to me to be Constantinian.

Concluding, I may take this opportunity of putting on record a few minor facts. There are two most interesting late classical fragments fixed in the South wall (interior) of our St. Paul's, which are described as having been brought from Jerusalem. In the Early Christian Room at the British Museum are some small carved capitals which are there attributed to the fourth century. Companion capitals were figured by Clermont Ganneau as still at the Holy Sepulchre; they are of the twelfth century. In the MS. room at the British Museum are also some interesting travellers' notes of Jerusalem, including drawings. I remember sketches of the tombs of the Latin Kings (Mr. Jeffery, p. 124). Some day I hope Mr. Jeffery will give us an enlarged edition or a supplementary volume. We shall not get on any farther until there has been a most searching analysis of the *Greek text* of Eusebius (Migne, S.G., vol 20). A loose paraphrase of the mistaken Latin version is only misleading. Some little conference by correspondence might clear it up if anyone would help.

Mr. Jeffery must have sketches of the profiles of the bases of the columns, etc. I wish he would publish them in this Journal, as I want to see them.

W. R. LETHABY [F.].

#### "ARCHITECTS! WHERE IS YOUR VORTEX?"

The above heading is the sub-title of *The Caliph's Design*, a book written by Mr. Wyndham Lewis and published by The Egoist, Ltd. The book is pleasantly printed on about 70 pages of quite good paper—as paper goes nowadays—with ample spaces left for the reader's notes, and is tastefully bound in boards covered with a white wrapper, on which blue ink has been splashed very generously. The low price of 3s. at which it is offered brings it easily within the reach of the manual workers, from whom tactful members

of the professional classes will probably be able to borrow it.

It is rather "strong meat," and therefore not suitable for all digestions, but can safely be recommended to those architects—and they are many—who have graduated on a course of bully-beef. It is also a stimulant rather than a narcotic, and thus supplies a long-felt want in these days of mild beverages and Mr. Johnson.

The portion of the book which appeals to me the most, both for its English and for its clear grasp of the subject under discussion, is the lower part of page 23 and the upper part of page 24. This consists of a quotation from Lethaby's *Introduction to the History and Theory of the Art of Building*.

Mr. Lewis has discovered a fundamental truth—of which less brilliant men possibly had an inkling—and has stated it clearly and definitely. He has noticed that the words of Lethaby are not the words of the chatter of the Art schools, and that there are distinct differences to be observed between Lethaby and the average Professor of Painting. If Mr. Lewis will follow up this line of research patiently and thoroughly his effort will meet with its just reward.

The admiration for Lethaby's views clearly indicated by the writer of *The Caliph's Design* makes one feel that the former's vortex is as rightly placed as we all know his heart to be, and if he will kindly write for the JOURNAL, in his own inimitable way, some account of this less familiar organ and its position in the scheme of things, then *The Caliph's Design* will not have been written in vain.

W. S. PURCHON [A].

*The University, Sheffield.*

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### Financial Relations of Architect and Client.

Wimbledon, 29th January 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR.—In my opinion many of the difficulties and disputes between architects and clients arise out of the illogical and preposterous system of 5 per cent. (now 6 per cent.) architects' charges, which, if architecture is to be regarded as an art and not as a trade, ought to have been abrogated long ago.

It is preposterous because it leaves it the obvious interest of the architect to push on the client to a greater expenditure of money; and though the majority of architects, one may believe, would be quite above that temptation, they are nevertheless laid open to the charge in the minds of suspicious and uncharitable persons, and it has given rise to not a few gibes against architects as a body: gibes probably quite without foundation in regard to special cases, but which have their sting nevertheless. It is illogical because it makes no distinction between a class of building which makes great demands on the architect's time and on his talent for design and a simpler

class of practical building which is much less tax upon him. A mansion and a warehouse may both cost the same, and therefore the architect's fee is the same, though the former is a far more delicate problem than the latter, and is probably worth much more in regard to design and supervision.

There is the further disadvantage that the public get it into what they are pleased to call their minds that 5 per cent. on the outlay is the necessary and orthodox way of paying architects and apply it to all cases without discrimination. I had an amusing instance of this in my younger days. I had designed an organ screen for a church; the decorative treatment consisted mainly in pierced panels, all different, requiring a good many large sheets of full-size detail, in addition to the general design, taking measurements, etc. I sent them in the very moderate charge of £20, and got an indignant letter from the committee asking me what I meant by such a charge, when everyone knew that an architect's proper charge was 5 per cent. on the outlay (this would have been £5 or £6). By help of the representations of some friends who knew a little more about the matter, I eventually got my charge admitted, but I believe one or two members of the committee still regarded me as a person who had tried to cheat them. This sort of thing would be impossible if the Institute once withdrew its blessing from the percentage system.

If architecture is an art, and consequentially architects are artists, let them put themselves on the same footing as other artists. You ask a painter to paint a portrait of your wife, and you prudently ask him first what his charge will be. If he is a young man with his reputation to make, he will perhaps say £100; if he is a painter already renowned *urbi et orbi*, he will probably say £1,000; but in either case it is quite plain sailing—both parties understand each other, and there is no ground for dispute. Let the man who wants a building be at liberty to go to any architect in whom he has confidence, or whom, for whatever reason, he wishes to employ, and put the same question that he would put to the portrait painter, "What will be your charge for carrying out this work for me?" If the architect is a young and unknown man, he will probably make a moderate charge rather than frighten away his client; if he is a man of great celebrity and with as much work on his hands as he can attend to, he will feel at liberty to consult his own interests and his position in the art, and make a considerably higher charge. In both cases the arrangement is perfectly straightforward, and there is no ground for dispute or misunderstanding. And the system would give the younger and unknown architect a better chance of employment. For if, on the percentage system, all architects are under a kind of understanding to make the same proportionate charge on the outlay on the work, the client will naturally reason, "Why should I go to young Mr. A—for my building when I can have the services of the celebrated Mr. X—for the same money?"



But the real, the central gist of the matter, lies in the fact that on this system of free agreement between architect and building-owner the architect, whom we all assume to be an artist, is treated and regarded as such, and is put on the same footing as all other artists; whereas if he is tied by a hard and fast rule as to his remuneration, and a rule not based on any consideration of the artistic value of the work but solely on its cost, then architecture becomes very like a trade, with trade prices, and the Institute of Architects comes unpleasantly near to the position of a trade union.

H. HEATHCOTE STATHAM [F.].

**Defects in Timber : Science Committee's Research :  
Members' Co-operation Solicited.**

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

SIR,—The Science Standing Committee have had under investigation the question of defects arising in timber through the action of boring beetles and like insects. Cases in which such ravages have dangerously impaired the strength of structural work in buildings are frequent, and little research appears to have been done on this subject, while such information as exists is not readily at the disposal of architects. The Committee have been fortunate in securing the interest of the Natural History Museum at South Kensington in the matter, and the Entomological Department of the Museum is prepared to give active assistance in suggesting treatment for and prevention of these defects if adequate specimens are forthcoming from architects or others interested.

It is felt that members will be glad to take advantage of aiding such a valuable piece of work by sending specimens with a view to the eventual circulation of a report on the subject, which, with any interim reports thought desirable, will be sent to those good enough to help in this manner. Specimens should be sent to the Hon. Secretaries, Science Standing Committee, 9, Conduit Street, W. They need not necessarily be more than a few cubic inches in size, though larger pieces would be generally desirable to ensure the actual presence of the insects. Much value will be attached to information about them, which can be regarded as confidential if desired. This should include as many as possible of the following details:—Locality of building; age of building; age of timber in building; location in building—*e.g.*, which floor; nature of situation—*e.g.*, dry or damp; what the specimen is from—*e.g.*, beam, joist, rafter, floor board; the use of the part of the building affected; the kind of wood; when the defect is believed to have started; whether the timber has ever been treated in any way, and if so with what, and at what date.

Similar specimens and information relative to furniture would also be welcomed.—Yours, etc.,

ALAN E. MUNBY,  
*Chairman Science Committee.*

**Conditions of Competition : A Proposition.**

606 Royal Liver Buildings, Liverpool.  
28th January, 1920.

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

SIR.—The Competitions Committee in the JOURNAL of January 10th warned Members and Licentiates from competing in three competitions. They have given several other warnings in recent issues. It is fair to suppose that some hundreds of architects sent for the faulty conditions, studied them, and commenced work on a design before the competitions were placed on the black list.

A great deal of time, both of architects and promoters, would be saved if the procedure were reversed. Why should not all competitions be barred until the conditions have been submitted to and approved by the Competitions Committee? The better class of promoters would welcome such an arrangement, the other class would have to agree. The result would be a general levelling-up of conditions. At present I feel convinced that a good many competitions only just fail to qualify for the black list. Incidentally, the suggested procedure would lead to the R.I.B.A. nominating assessors more frequently.

*Sine qua non* in all competitions should be the publication of the assessor's name and a guarantee to pay all premiums within a stated period, say, six weeks, of the date of sending in the drawings.—Yours truly,

HASTWELL GRAYSON [F.].

**"Dividing the Profession."**

188A Abchurch Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.3,  
2nd February, 1920.

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

SIR.—The recent correspondence under this heading seems to lead us nowhere, and it is, perhaps, a pity it was commenced. I cannot speak in any way for the Official Architects' Society—not being connected with that body—but its existence at all seems to me an effect the cause of which must be sought other than where Mr. Adams apparently places it. I recall, during many years, obvious tendencies on the part of a section of the Institute to separate the sheep from the goats and to claim for the so-called private architects a practical monopoly of both the moral virtues and the intellectual and æsthetic qualities of mankind as against those dreadfully depraved and soulless persons known as official architects—whether "qualified" or "unqualified." It requires no great depth of imagination to see that the inception of the new society might reasonably be the result of that attitude, for I remember no indignant protests from members during these many years against the manifest unfairness of reflecting slightly upon those members of the Institute who had the good or bad fortune to hold public offices, or, as some prefer to put it, to

fill salaried posts. Such views count for little really. The study of architectural biography shows that many very distinguished architects have held public appointments, and even accepted salaries, without ceasing to produce fine buildings or losing a reputation for possession of a soul. And no very intimate knowledge of our Charter is necessary to show that the attitude to which I refer has no possible relation to the object for which the Institute was founded—the general advancement of Civil Architecture and to promote and facilitate the acquirement of knowledge of the various Arts and Sciences connected therewith—a supremely important fact to remember in our affairs which, more often than is necessary, seems to be entirely lost sight of. However that may be, one hopes now for a truce to controversial matters of this kind in Institute affairs. Our President, in a manner that pleases but, coming from him, does not surprise us, has raised the question into another plane by his pronouncement that, within the Institute, private and official architects are entitled to equal consideration and honour—and we cannot do better than leave it at that. Frank and general acceptance of so sound a principle should do much towards at least uniting together our own membership.

May I, Sir, be allowed to make another suggestion? There exists a good deal of apprehension among a section of Associate Members as to the general trend of Institute affairs and the possibilities of the near future. The recent vexed question of the ballot was but a symptom of this feeling. An intention, which I seem to remember was expressed by the President, of holding informal conferences with the Allied Societies, leads me to suggest that he might usefully meet some Associate Members for informal discussion in a similar way, and I hope that he may consent to do so. When reconstruction is so much in the air as at present, a freer interchange of opinion between our leaders and the ordinary Members would seem to present advantages. For though, as Shakespeare says, "to fear the worst oft cures the worst," it is as well to discriminate between real and imaginary fears, and the saying of Sallust, that you should advise well before you begin, applies to most things in life.—Faithfully yours,

FREDK. R. HIORNS [A.].

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—I have no wish to prolong a correspondence which Mr. Adams' further letter shows is not likely to be pursued with advantage. However, in the interests of accuracy I must disclaim having accused him of originating the threat of discord in our ranks. It may also be pointed out that the blackballing of candidates for Associateship is a vital question of principle, which has nothing whatever to do with the other matters introduced by him. Some of the persons he mentions, without any authority or reason that I am aware of, are referred to as my "friends"—as if that constituted a piece of reasoned argument calculated to

wither me. In his first letter on the balloting question, he "felt that some of the names in the June list should not have been included," and stated that he had "helped to blackball all the candidates who had failed to come forward for their Final Examination who had qualified in the 'Intermediate' before 1909." In his second letter he refers to those who acted similarly as going "out of the way in war-time to keep out properly qualified younger men from the Associateship"—thereby taking a line which is to him "inexplicable." He then clinches this argument by a statement that "anonymous designers would not exist if practitioners did not flourish on their vicarial work," and proceeds, in effect, to award the said practitioners a Fellowship for, in this way, "designing in beauty and building in truth." At the same time he declaims that nothing would induce him to recognise those degraded (and often necessitous) ghosts, on whose vicarial work even a Fellow might conceivably flourish. It almost reminds us of poor, dear Mr. Pecksniff being trodden down by that terrible and overbearing person, Tom Pinch. Such reasoning is really too incomprehensible, and I can never hope to bottom it.

ARTHUR W. SHEPPARD [A.].

#### London Atelier of the Liverpool School of Architecture.

Carlton Chambers, 4 Regent Street, S.W.1.  
29th January 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

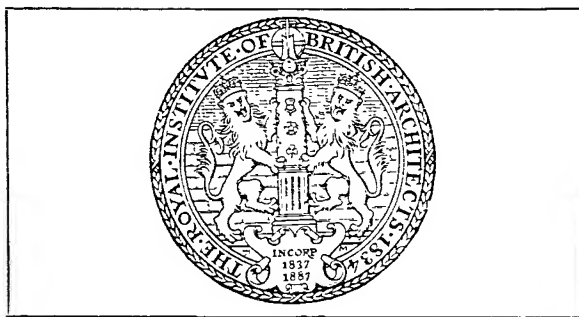
DEAR SIR.—As many pre-War members of the Liverpool Architectural School appear to have re-started their architectural work in the metropolis, it is thought that the atelier would now serve a more useful purpose to past students of the Liverpool School and others if it were re-started in London. It is proposed, therefore, to do this. I should be glad if old members and anyone else desirous of becoming a member would communicate with me at Messrs. Emerson & Adams, Carlton Chambers, 4, Regent Street, S.W., with a view to the atelier's reorganisation. This invitation is not limited to ex-students of the Liverpool School, but is open to all interested in the type of work the Liverpool School has stood for.

Yours truly,

W. N. ADAMS [A.].

#### The Ministry of Health's Housing Fortnightly.

The Ministry of Health is publishing a fortnightly journal dealing with all aspects of the Housing question. Articles appear regularly on New Construction, Economics, New Cottage Plans, Lay-outs, Cost of Houses, Slums, Procedure, Rulings by the Ministry, etc. A valuable feature is the List of Materials and New Methods of Construction approved by the Standardisation and Construction Committee, and published periodically. Copies are to be obtained at H.M. Stationery Office, Imperial House, Kingsway, price 3d.



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 7th February 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

In response to the request for assistance in making the Roll of Honour complete, the following further names missing from the original list [see JOURNAL 10th January] have been kindly supplied by members and others:—

- BARCLAY, FERGUSSON, Capt., R.A.F. [*Licentiate*]. Killed in action whilst flying.  
 BOWES, ROY, Capt., M.C. [*Student*]. Killed near Ypres, July 1917.  
 CHARD, CHARLES NORMAN, Private, 7th Bn. Yorks Regt. [*Student*]. Killed August 1917.  
 CRICKSHANK, DONALD EDWARD, Lt., 10th Bn. Border Regt. [*Student*]. Killed in action.  
 EDWARDS, JOHN PERCIVAL, Company Sergt.-Major, Royal Fusiliers [*Licentiate*]. Killed in action.  
 ELLIS, EDWARD MILLER, Capt., Honourable Artillery Company, M.C. [*Licentiate*]. Killed in action.  
 FAUCETT, S. STUART, Lieut., Liverpool Regt. [*Student*]. Killed in action.  
 FERNYHOUGH, SAMUEL, jun., Lt., Sth Bn. Manchester Regt. [*Student*]. Killed in action.  
 JONES, W. ORLANDO, M.A., Capt., 10th South Wales Borderers [*Student*]. Killed in action, 1917.  
 PECKHAM, ARTHUR NYTON, Indian Army Officers Res. [*Associate*]. Accidentally killed Feb. 1918.  
 RADCLIFFE, JAMES, Capt., 7th Duke of Wellington's W.R.R. [*Student*]. Killed near Ypres, Feb. 1918.  
 SAGAR, WM. HENRY, Sergt., R.E. [*Associate*]. Served in France and reported dead.  
 SUTHERLAND, GEORGE ANGUS, Capt., Seaforth Highlanders [*Student*]. Killed in 1918.  
 WHEATLEY, JOSEPH HORACE LYNEHAM, 2nd Lt. [*Associate*]. Missing, believed killed.

### War Honours.

- BESWICK, ALFRED EDWARD, Lt.-Col. commanding 24 Royal West Kents in Palestine Campaign [*Associate*]. Mentioned in Dispatches: Croix de Guerre. (Wounded Suvla Bay, Aug. 1915; Sinai and Palestine, 1916-17-18)  
 HOWCROFT, GILBERT BURDETTE, Capt. and Adj., 7th Duke of Wellington's W.R.R. [*Associate*]. Awarded M.C. Jan. 1917.

### The Institute's Address to the King.

The Address from the Royal Institute congratulating the King on the successful conclusion of peace was sent to His Majesty through the Home Secretary immediately after the Ratification. The Address was in the following terms:—

### THE HUMBLE AND LOYAL ADDRESS OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS TO HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY KING GEORGE V.

### MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY:

*WE your dutiful subjects the President and Council on behalf of the Royal Institute of British Architects and of the Architectural Societies of the United Kingdom and the British Dominions beyond the sea in alliance therewith*

*Beg leave to render Homage to our Most Gracious Patron on the occasion of the Termination of the Great War*

*And to tender our humble and respectful congratulations to your Majesty on the joyful and triumphant issue thereof in the conclusion of a Victorious Peace.*

*Knowing well that the burdens our profession endured during the progress of hostilities were necessary to the fulfilment of that happy liberty we enjoy under Your Majesty's beneficent rule we count them as naught and crave permission to renew our expression of devoted loyalty to Your Majesty's sacred person.*

*WE pray that Almighty God may grant to Your Majesty a long, prosperous and peaceful reign*

*And that He may inspire us Your Majesty's loving servants in our work for the greater Honour and Glory of Your Majesty our Patron whom God preserve.*

*Given under our hands and seal this thirty-first day of December One thousand nine hundred and nineteen.*

JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*

WALTER CAVE

E. GUY DAWBER

S. D. ADSHEAD

ALFRED W. S. CROSS

ARTHUR KEEN, *Hon. Secretary.*

*Vice-Presidents.*

A message has been received from the Home Office stating that the Address was duly laid before the King and that his Majesty was pleased to receive it very graciously.

### "Students' Night" at the Institute.

The improvement in the President's health which has resulted from the rest treatment prescribed by his doctors enabled him, after an absence of nine weeks, to preside at the General Meeting last Monday and deliver his Address to Students. Mr. Simpson was looking well and was warmly cheered as he ascended the platform to take the Chair. This was the first "Students' Night" since 1914, and a large and distinguished company, some of them special guests at

the Council Dinner that evening, assembled to do honour to the occasion. The guests included Sir Edwin H. Busk, LL.B., Chairman of Convocation of the University of London; Sir Stanley Leathes, K.C.B., of the Civil Service Commission; the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University; Sir Rickman J. Godlee, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D., F.R.C.S.; Sir Gregory Foster, Provost of the University of London; Mr. A. J. Davis [F.]; Mr. E. K. Chambers, C.B.; Mr. G. Topham Forrest [F.], Superintending Architect of the L.C.C.; Mr. Edwin J. Sadgrove [F.], President of the Society of Architects; Major Maxwell Ayrton [F.]; Professor A. E. Richardson [F.]; Mr. Jay Hambidge; Mr. Graham Simpson, F.R.C.S.; Mr. William R. Davies, C.B.; Mr. Gilbert M. Simpson. The course of the business will be found recorded in the Minutes. At the conclusion of Mr. Davis's Review of the Designs and Drawings the President warmly complimented him upon the kind and tactful yet extremely skilful and definite way in which he had performed a very difficult task, and tendered to him the Council's grateful acknowledgments for undertaking it.

#### The Kalendar, 1919-20.

The R.I.B.A. KALENDAR, publication of which has been suspended since 1916, has been printed for the Session 1919-20, and is now in the carrier's hands for delivery to members. Enclosed with the book is a copy of the Revised Scale of Charges (sanctioned by the Institute at the General Meeting of the 12th May), which includes the new clause 9 (sanctioned at the General Meeting of the 1st December), setting out the fees for Housing Schemes and Laying-out Estates as agreed with the Ministry of Health, the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Scottish Board of Health. The Council take this means of drawing the attention of every member to the important changes it has been found necessary to introduce into the Scale since the previous revision over twenty years ago.

The great increase in printing costs has made necessary some curtailment of the old familiar features of past issues of the KALENDAR. The section giving the Local Distribution of Members has been omitted, but this will be restored in future issues in a modified and more useful form. The sections dealing with Architectural Education, Advice to Students, the Institute Examinations, etc., have also been dropped: all these matters are under revision and can be produced more economically in the handbook specially treating of them which is to be issued at an early date.

#### Building Materials Research: The Institute Memorial.

The following Memorial has been addressed from the Institute to the Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour, O.M., P.C., Lord President of the Council:—

23rd January, 1920.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, on behalf of the President and Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects, wish to draw the attention of the Committee of the Privy Council dealing with Scientific and

Industrial Research, to the urgent need for permanent and organised investigations into materials used in the building industry.

Having regard to the importance of this industry, which at the date of the last Census for England (1911) employed 817,942 operatives; to the magnitude of its immediate prospective developments; and to the vast sums annually expended through its branches, it would appear hardly necessary to justify the subject of this memorial by argument.

The Royal Institute of British Architects have had before them very prominently this question of research work, and it is our considered opinion that this is at present totally inadequate in view of the magnitude and importance of the industry and the wide field open for investigation, and should it be thought desirable this Council is prepared to substantiate with proper evidence the necessity for augmenting and developing research on specific and general lines.

We are aware that at the present time great financial economy is a public necessity, and it is for this very reason and not in spite of it that we urge the importance of immediate investigations at the national cost.

We are aware that there are centres of research now in existence, and we feel that the main purpose of a Central Committee (which we hope may be established to deal with this matter) should be to allocate subjects to the bodies best suited to deal with them, to co-ordinate research and prevent overlapping, and to encourage investigators of the first rank, and secure the co-operation of leading scientists.

We feel that a further duty of the Central Committee would be to collect and distribute data, and to see that there is no hiatus left where research is needed. We suggest that gaps do now exist in the information available on materials in common use in the building trade, and attached hereto is a note of two typical building materials and suggestions on the lines on which research is required.

Again, in the opinion of the Royal Institute, inquiry is desirable into the present position and prospects of manufacture of new kinds of building materials initiated during the war suitable for economical and rapid building, and into the advisability of assisting and developing such products to form permanent national industries which otherwise may be overwhelmed in incipient stages by the more perfected materials imported from abroad.

With the assurance that your Council will regard it to be in the national interest to give this memorial due consideration.—We have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servants.

WALTER CAVE, *Vice-President.*

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*

[Notes referred to in above letter.]

#### TIMBER.

The estimated value of timber imported into the United Kingdom in 1919 is upwards of £100,000,000. The United States Department of Agriculture have estimated that by

proper preservation treatment an annual saving of upwards of 71 million dollars is possible, and this estimate adapted to the United Kingdom represents a figure of £5,000,000.

We are informed that in the United Kingdom the State neither maintains in its employ any technical authority on timber, nor directly devotes any sum to research on the subject. It would seem that elsewhere in the civilised world adequate provision is made. For instance, the United States of America expend at least £40,000 per annum in this direction. The information generally available for the public in England to-day is fifty years old; whereas the United States had produced, up to 1917, 550 bulletins, and carried out as many as 130,000 tests on one kind of timber alone.

Investigations are required on the preservation of wood from decay arising in felling, storing, seasoning, and in actual employment; further, on the mechanical properties of timber for various uses and the strengths to which such timber should be stressed in all conditions, and investigations which are being pursued with a view to developing home-grown timber as a substitution for much that is now imported should be augmented, and results published periodically.

Again, the Central Authority could collate and render available investigations carried out by other States.

#### PAVING MATERIALS.

Having in view the important part of paving materials in industrial and commercial buildings, and that pavings are subject to gradual destruction inseparable from the ordinary use of the buildings, it is noteworthy that little information is available to assist in selecting the most suitable form of paving in various circumstances.

It is estimated that the first cost of the pavings to the total structure in industrial buildings varies from 4 to 15 per cent., and that the annual maintenance varies from 10 to 100 per cent.

Timber, asphaltum and the so-called patent jointless floors, and various finishing applications and solutions are imported: very little is known of their properties, and the many failures through decay, inherent defects and unsuitability form a great drain on manufacturers' resources. Practically no paving material available will successfully stand acids and oils, which play a very large part in many important industries. Many common kinds of pavings are rapidly deteriorated by damp or are highly combustible.

The many pavings which claim to sustain any or all of these conditions require investigation, and it is felt that certain home products have possibilities, and merely require to be investigated and fostered to prove a permanent asset to the country.

It is suggested that research should be made with a view to furnishing reliable information as to the type and composition of pavings in various circumstances, and to seek to discover methods and materials to ensure durability. Similar cases calling for research might readily be cited in the many other branches of the building trade, but the above examples will be sufficient to indicate the importance and extent of the subject.

#### Diseases in Timber: Science Committee's Investigations.

Owing to the prevalence of diseases in prepared timber, and in view of the impending increase in the use of timber—much possibly of immature growth—in building construction, the Science Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Alan E. Munby, has had the question of such defects under review; and Dr. C. J. Gahen, of the Natural History Museum, has been asked, and has consented, to associate himself in an advisory capacity with this inquiry. This Committee will welcome any information which seems likely to further such investigations. Correspondence

should be addressed to the Secretary R.I.B.A., and marked "Science Committee."

PERCIVAL M. FRASER.

*Hon. Sec., Science Standing Committee.*

#### R.I.B.A. Housing Conference at Olympia.

A valuable feature of the *Daily Mail* "Ideal Home" Exhibition, at Olympia, opened by Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, on the 4th inst., was the series of Conferences on the Housing Problem organised by the R.I.B.A. at the request of the promoters of the Exhibition, and held on the three days February 4th to February 6th. The opening meeting was presided over by Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and was addressed by the Right Hon. Dr. C. Addison, Minister of Health, Major Harry Barnes, M.P. [F.], Mr. Bernard Holland, L.C.C., Mr. Oscar Warburg, L.C.C., and Professor Adshead [F.]. Among those present were Sir John Burnet [F.], Sir Tudor Walters, M.P., Sir James Carmichael, Sir Banister Fletcher [F.], Mr. Sydney Perks [F.] (the City Surveyor), Mr. E. J. Sadgrove [F.] (President of the Society of Architects), Mr. G. L. Pepler (President of the Town Planning Institute), most of the members of the Council, and other members of the Institute.

Dr. Addison said he had seen it stated in the Press that more progress had been made with regard to new and improved methods of housing in the last six months than had been previously made in this country since the time of the cave-dwellers, or something to that effect. That was probably true, and they all, he thought, felt some share of the reflected glory of that performance. Referring to the conservatism of the British people in overcoming their prejudice in regard to new methods, Dr. Addison spoke of the *Daily Mail's* statement that we should have rooms eight feet high, and said that, when the Ministry recommended eight feet instead of eight feet six inches, the number of angry deputations they received on the point would make a very large list. So far as the Ministry were concerned they were rapidly emerging from the period of their initial difficulties of organisation and preparation, and big blocks of schemes were reaching their final stages now every week, so that, instead of proposals trickling in by tens or hundreds, as they did, they had during last week more than 11,000 new house plans submitted to them, of which more than 7,000 had been approved. Contracts finally approved for work to be begun numbered last week more than 3,300, and the numbers were rapidly increasing. They had passed the 100,000 mark in house plans submitted to them, and the schemes were rapidly approaching the tender stage. Although in two important directions—labour supply and money—the Ministry of Health were not able to supply what was needed, he was glad to say there was no reason why the 200,000 houses of this year's programme should not be in the course of erection or completion this year. In one respect they were greatly disappointed. They had approved 40 or 50 types of new methods of house construction. But he was sorry to say that, except in a small number of cases, the firms submitting the proposals which had been approved did not appear to be in a position to deliver the goods. He hoped they would all speed forward when they were able to do so. Unless they adopted readily some of the new methods for providing very comfortable homes they would not be able to carry out the programme.

because there were not enough labourers in many directions to do the work. Economy in the design of houses saved time as well as money. For the first time they had in this country a review of what was needed in respect to houses, and he believed that 1,700 out of the 1,800 authorities had for the first time surveyed their district in order to find out what was needed.

A full report of the proceedings of the Conferences, together with the text of the lectures, will be published later. The following is the programme of lectures:—

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH (FIRST DAY'S CONFERENCE).**

10.30-11.45.—*Chairman*, Sir Theodore Chambers, K.B.E., F.S.I., Member of the Housing Finance Committee. *Lecturer*, Sir John Ferguson. *Subject*, "The Financial Aspect of the Housing Problem."

11.45-1.0.—*Chairman*, Mr. W. E. Riley [F.]. *Lecturer*, Mr. F. M. Elgood [F.]. *Subject*, "The Difficulty of Obtaining Contracts."

2.30-3.45.—*Chairman*, Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. *Lecturer*, Lt.-Col. W. G. Newton, M.C. [A.]. *Subject*, "The House Beautiful."

3.45-5.0.—*Chairman*, Mr. E. Guy Dawber, Vice-President R.I.B.A. *Lecturer*, Mr. H. Aray Tipping. *Subject*, "The Preservation of Old Cottages and Villages."

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH (SECOND DAY'S CONFERENCE).**

10.30-11.45.—*Chairman*, Mr. Kennedy Jones, M.P. *Lecturer*, Mr. J. E. Drower, F.S.I. *Subject*, "Difficulties of Transport and Materials."

11.45-1.0.—*Chairman*, Professor S. D. Adshhead, Vice-President R.I.B.A. *Lecturer*, Mr. W. Alexander Harvey [F.]. *Subject*, "Economies in Planning and in the Employment of New Materials."

2.30-3.45.—*Chairman*, Alderman J. Beard. *Lecturer*, Mr. J. P. Lloyd, President London District Council, National Federation of Building Trades Operatives. *Subject*, "Housing from the Working Man's Point of View."

3.45-5.0.—*Chairman*, Professor Beresford Pite [F.]. *Lecturer*, The Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor. *Subject*, "New Houses and the New Social Order."

The Conferences were organised on behalf of the Institute by Professor Adshhead and Mr. E. Guy Dawber, Vice-Presidents. An interesting exhibit of lay-out plans and house designs was arranged for the Conferences by Professor Adshhead.

**House Construction and Design: Lectures at Olympia.**

The Garden Cities and Town Planning Association has arranged for the following Conferences and Lectures at *The Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition:—

7th Feb.—First Session, 3 p.m.-4.15: "What Public Utility Societies can do to Provide Houses under the New Terms of Financial Assistance" (Mr. E. G. Culpin).

Second Session, 4.30-5.30: A Series of short illustrated descriptions of some of the Approved Methods of New Construction, followed by questions and discussion.

10th Feb.—Morning Session, 10.30: "The Planning of the Home" (discussion opened by Councillor Mrs. Barton); 11.30: "The Labour-saving Kitchen" (discussion opened by Mrs. C. S. Peel, O.B.E.).

Afternoon Session, 2.30: (a) "Central Hot Water Systems and Central Heating" (discussion opened by Miss Marion Fitzgerald, A.R.San.I.); 2.50: (b) "Communal Arrangements" (discussion opened by Mrs. Sanderson Furniss); 4.30: (c) "The Need for Women on Housing Committees" (discussion opened by Miss Constance Cochrane).

**Satellite Towns for Greater London.**

The Garden Cities and Town Planning Association are organising a Conference on Satellite Towns for Greater London at *The Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition, Olympia, on Saturday, 21st February. The Conference will be divided into two Sessions as follows:—

FIRST SESSION: 2.30 p.m.-4.30 p.m.

(a) The Problem of Housing, Transport, and Industry in Greater London, and the failure of Suburban Development. Capt. R. L. Reiss (Member of the Housing Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Health).

(b) Satellite Towns, the remedy for London Transit and Housing. From the Labour Point of View. Herbert Morrison, Esq. (Secretary, London Labour Party).

SECOND SESSION: 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

(a) London's First Satellite Town: An account of the Garden City at Welwyn. Herts. Sir Theodore Chambers, K.B.E., F.S.I.

(b) Local Government Problems involved in the creation of Satellite Towns. C. B. Purdom, Esq. (Secretary of the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association).

The opening papers in each Session will be confined to the first hour: questions and discussion will occupy the second hour. Delegate cards and tickets for the Exhibition may be had on application to the Organising Secretary.

**Free Public Lectures on Concrete.**

A course of six educational free public lectures is being given at the Concrete Institute, 296 Vauxhall Bridge Road, Westminster, on the following dates at 6 p.m.:—

6 Feb.—Demonstrations on the Practical Testing of Concrete. By H. K. G. Bamber, F.C.S.

20 Feb.—Some Points in Reinforced Concrete Design. By H. Kempton Dyson.

5 Mar.—Some Properties of Steel. By Ewart S. Andrews, B.Sc.

19 Mar.—Notes on the Practical Application of Reinforced Concrete. By Dr. Oscar Faber, O.B.E., D.Sc.

9 Apr.—The Uses of Concrete. By T. J. Clark.

16 Apr.—Submission of Plans to Local Authorities. By E. Fiander Etchells, Assoc. M.Inst.C.E. [Hon. A.].

Examinations for Graduateship and Associate Membership of the Concrete Institute will be held on 13th and 14th May. The examination for Graduateship will include Principles of Statics and Theory of Structures, Strength and Elasticity of Materials, and two of the following selective subjects: Chemistry, Physics, Hydraulics, Geology, Geodesy. The Examination for Associateship will include structural engineering and one of the following selective subjects: Reinforced Concrete Construction, Steel Frame Construction. Full syllabus may be obtained from the Secretary of the Concrete Institute.

**Reinstatement of Members.**

The following gentlemen have been reinstated by the Council members of the Royal Institute of British Architects:—

MIDDLETON: GEORGE ALEXANDER THOMAS, as *Associate*.  
WILSON: ALEXANDER BROWN, as *Associate*.

**Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A.**

Members will be glad to hear that Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A., has come safely through a very serious operation and is progressing satisfactorily. He hopes to be able to move to the country at an early date.

### Proceedings of the Industrial Council for the Building Industry.

The recently issued Report of the Quarterly Meeting of the Industrial Council for the Building Industry held at York in November last states that the following resolution received from the Regional Production Committee, Region L, was referred to the Educational Committee for consideration and report:

(a) That this committee urges upon the Ministry of Health the immediate necessity of stimulating and increasing the number of apprentices in several branches of the building trade, especially bricklaying, masonry, carpentry, and joinery, there being a deficiency of skilled artisans in such trades available for the effective carrying out of the Government's housing programme recently approved by Parliament: and, further, that all Education Committees throughout the country be requested to foster and assist the creation or continuance of such apprenticeships in the national interest. (b) That the trade unions connected with the building trade be requested to co-operate in fostering the apprenticeship system, and that the present limits as to the number of apprentices be reconsidered, bearing in mind the pressing necessity for additional houses and the vast amount of reconstruction work now required both in England and on the Continent.

Consideration was also given to the desirability of the professional bodies representing architects and surveyors becoming affiliated to this Council, and the opinion being favourable, it was unanimously resolved:

That the professional bodies representing Architects and Surveyors, viz., the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Society of Architects, the Surveyors' Institution, and the Quantity Surveyors' Association, be invited to become affiliated to this Council.

It was further agreed that the professional representatives attending the meeting be invited to meet the Administrative Committee of the Council or representatives thereof, to devise a method of affiliation for the approval of the respective bodies concerned.

It will be remembered that the desirability of the affiliation of the professional bodies referred to was suggested to the Industrial Council by the Building Industries Consultative Board, of which the President R.I.B.A. is Chairman.

### Restoration of Belgium.

The Controller-General for the Department of Overseas Trade, in a letter to the Secretary R.I.B.A. dated 30th January, writes that he had that day received information from H.M. Minister at Brussels stating that the Belgian authorities concerned were unable to extend beyond the 31st January the date for the receipt of drawings in the competition for designs for the various types of houses specified in the Conditions [JOURNAL, 10th January, p. 109]. It will be remembered that the invitation to British architects to compete only reached the Institute in the first week of January, whereas the conditions were made public in Belgium some eight weeks earlier. Representations were at once made by the Institute that the time allowed was inadequate and asking for an extension. It is regretted that the effort has been unsuccessful.

### Suggested Higher Buildings for Central London.

Mr. Delissa Joseph [F.], whose suggestion (see p. 137) that the time was getting ripe for permitting higher buildings in London has been publicly discussed, replies to his critics in *The Times* of 22nd January:—

The criticisms which have been offered have been mostly founded upon the mistaken impression that sky-scrapers were advocated, whereas I was careful to limit my suggestion to a modification of the London Building Act which would allow buildings to rise up to a limit of 200 feet where facing parks, open spaces, and the river side, with proper safeguards as to the control of the architectural design. The question of the rear line of such buildings is already met by the London Building Act of 1894, which, in the case of a domestic building, defines the rear line as being kept within 63½' above a height of 16 feet from the pavement: likewise the means of escape in case of fire is fully safeguarded by the existing Act, which in the case of buildings 60 feet above the street level requires the provision of duplicate staircases.

Limiting oneself to facts: Central London, whether residential or commercial, is already full; the demand for additional accommodation cannot be satisfied; although London may not have the physical boundaries of Manhattan Island, its central area is as limited and as clearly defined as New York itself; the demand for accommodation within that limited area is just as clamant; and the problem can only be solved, as New York's was solved, by building upwards, not in narrow thoroughfares, but in the numerous open positions which London offers for such development.

Again, in *The Times* the of 24th:—

There is a wide difference between the "sky-scraper" of 40 storeys advocated by Sir Martin Conway and the 200 feet building, carrying 16 storeys only, advocated by me. I venture to submit that London is not yet ripe for "sky-scrapers," but that it is over-ripe for higher buildings than the present London Building Act allows.

The demand to-day is for centralisation, and there is no doubt this would afford some relief to traffic, as there would be less people to bring in and out of town each day, while the increase in residential accommodation overlooking the parks would relieve the pressure on many of the outlying districts and do something towards solving the housing problem.

The increased rating could be utilised as security for municipal loans, which could be applied, not only to street widening, but to the financing of housing schemes on the outskirts, while the new residential blocks would enjoy beautiful views and secure to their occupants ready access to the parks. Tall buildings on the Embankment, north and south, the south being linked up to the West End by the new Charing Cross Bridge, would afford the much-needed additional accommodation for business purposes.

### The Royal Academy Exhibition.

The following dates have been fixed for the reception of works intended for the Royal Academy Exhibition, 1920: Water-colours, pastels, miniatures, black-and-white drawings, engraving, and architectural drawings, 26th March; oil paintings, 27th and 29th March, and sculpture 30th March. Forms for describing works and labels for affixing thereto may be obtained during the month of March from the Royal Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W. The exhibition will close on 7th August.



## COMPETITIONS.

**Eastbourne War Memorial Competition : R.I.B.A. Prohibition Withdrawn.**

The objectionable features of the Eastbourne War Memorial Competition having been amended and the conditions brought into accord with the Institute Regulations, the competition is now upon a satisfactory footing. The Council's prohibition is therefore withdrawn.

**Professional Classes' War Relief.**

Mr. W. Hilton Nash [F.] has been appointed by the Council to represent the Institute at a conference of professional institutions, professional benevolent funds, and organisations especially intended to cope with distress among the more highly educated classes. Lord Phillimore will preside. The Professional Classes' War Relief Council will soon cease to exist, and it is suggested that an organisation should be formed for the purpose of facilitating inter-communication between societies dealing with the relief of distress among the professional classes and other kindred associations. The aim of such an organisation would be to utilise the experience gained by the co-operating associations in considering the best methods of relieving distress among the persons coming within the scope of its operations.

**New Methods of Construction.**

The Scottish Board of Health announce that they are prepared to consider applications from parties concerned for approval of special methods of construction of houses. Methods so submitted will be scrutinised by the Board's technical experts, and, if approved, they will probably be brought to the notice of local authorities and others engaged upon housing schemes. Applications should be addressed to the Secretary, Scottish Board of Health, 125, George Street, Edinburgh, and should be accompanied by full particulars of the proposed method of construction, the accommodation to be provided, the approximate price per house, and estimated life of the house.

**Surveyors' Institution: Alterations in Professional Fees.**

In view of the increase in office expenses, the Council of the Surveyors' Institution have amended the Scale of Professional Charges issued by the Institution in 1915. The alterations in the Scale have been drawn up in conjunction with representatives of the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute. Among the items affected are valuations for probate or estate duty, valuing for annual rental, negotiating sales by private contract, estate agencies and collection of rents and tithes, etc.

**University of London Lectures.**

The following lectures by Professor F. M. Simpson [F.] will be delivered at University College; admission by ticket only, to be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Publications Secretary, University College, Gower Street :-

*Thurs. 12 Feb., 5.30 p.m.*—"English Architecture in the Nineteenth Century." Lantern illustrations.  
*Thurs. 26 Feb., 5.30 p.m.*—"The Trend of Architectural Thought in England To-day." Lantern illustrations.

## THE EXAMINATIONS.

**The Special War Examination, December 1919.**

At the "Special War Examination" qualifying for Candidature as Associate, held in the first week of December, and lasting five days, 45 candidates presented themselves and were examined, with the result that 41 passed and 4 were relegated in certain subjects. The passed candidates are as follows :-

ALLUM: STANLEY CHARLES, 24 Chichester Road, Westbourne Square, Paddington, W.2.  
 BLAMPIED: ROY CHARLES, The Croft, Samaris, Jersey.  
 BLOOMFIELD: FRANK L ANSON, Architect's Branch, Department of Public Works, Sydney, N.S.W.  
 BRADDELL: THOMAS ARTHUR DARCY, 13 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W.  
 BRYCE: ANDREW DOUGLAS, 68 Kirkstall Road, Stratham Hill, S.W.2.  
 BURCHETT: HOWARD WILLIAM, 22 Penistone Road, Streatham Common, S.W.  
 BUTCHER: HENRY FREDERICK, Gisborne, New Zealand.  
 CLAYDON: LIFFORD, 89 Sterndale Road, W. Kensington, W.14.  
 COOPER: CARLEF MILES, 16 South Bailey, Durham.  
 COLLSON: RICHARD CARTE, 7 Elm Park Road, Chelsea, S.W.  
 COUPLAND: WILLIAM VERNON, 82 Victoria Street, S.W.1.  
 CRAIG: WILLIAM HUGHSTON, c/o Dr. W. J. Craig, Box Hill, Melbourne, Victoria.  
 CRICKSHANK: HERBERT WILLIAM, 25 Examiner Buildings, Strutt Street, Manchester.  
 CURTIS: HERBERT LEWIS, 2 Anson Road, Tufnell Park, N.7.  
 DOWNER: GEORGE EDWIN, Fielding, New Zealand.  
 FURNER: ARTHUR STANLEY, 12 Normandy Avenue, High Barnet.  
 GARRITT: STANLEY G., Melbourne, Australia.  
 GRABHAM: STANLEY, 109 Oxford Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.  
 HAIGH: NORMAN CHARLES, Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.  
 HOWARD: CHARLES V., Campbells Hill, West Maitland, N.S.W.  
 JONES: WILLIAM GEORGE EDMUND, 54 Lexham Gardens, W.  
 JONES: WILLIAM HAROLD, Woodbury, 24 Sunnyside Road, Hornsey Lane, N.  
 LAURIE: W. G., 406 Wendown Parade, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia.  
 MILLER: E. S. C., 57 East 58th Street, New York, U.S.A.  
 MORGAN: ALFRED PERCY, Auckland, New Zealand.  
 NICHOLSON: THOMAS, Workington, Cumberland.  
 O'DONOGHUE: RUFERT JOHN GORDON, "Westerton," Lynwood Avenue, Epsom.  
 OSBALDISTON: GEORGE ALBERT, "Kahmna," Auchenflower, Brisbane, Australia.  
 READ: KENNETH HARRY, 35 Claremont Road, Bishopston, Bristol.  
 REED: WILLIAM JAMES, 27 St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.  
 RICKARD: STANLEY NOBLE, Cairington, Auburn Road, Granville, Sydney, N.S.W.  
 ROBINSON: ERIC OPME, 45 Morningson Street, Keighley, Yorks.  
 ST. LEGER: CHAS. D., 35 Bedford Square, W.C.  
 SCOTT: THOMAS EDWARD, 92 Meeting House Lane, Peckham, S.E.  
 SYNNOT: REYMOND, Sydney, N.S.W.  
 TASKER: EDWARD CLOUGH, 46 Ramshill Road, South Cliff, Scarborough.  
 TEMPEST: FREDERICK WILLIAM, 45 Woodhouse Road, Mansfield, Notts.

THIRLLE: TOM OWEN, 35 Sheepcote Road, Harrow.  
 VERNON: FREDERICK AUSTIN, 5 Duncan Terrace, Islington, N.  
 WATERHOUSE: MICHAEL, Staple Inn Buildings, Holborn, W.C.  
 YOUNG: JAMES REID, 2 Wellington Place, Belfast.

## ALLIED SOCIETIES.

### Birmingham Architectural Association.

#### CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

The Fifth General Meeting of the Session was held at the Association's Rooms, Royal Society of Artists' Buildings, New Street, Birmingham, on Friday, January 2nd. The President, Mr. H. T. Buckland, F.R.I.B.A., was in the chair, and 46 members were present. The meeting took the form of an interesting discussion on "Continuation Schools," the principal speaker being Dr. Innes, Chief Education Officer of Birmingham, who pointed out how essential it was that the necessity for the advancement of educational facilities in this country should be realised.

In Birmingham 15 sites had already been provisionally selected for Continuation Schools, and as far as was possible and practicable they had been chosen near centres of communication so that they might be easy of access to those who attended them from the outlying districts. The schools were to be planned on entirely new lines, and one of the largest questions affecting their planning would be that of curriculum; this problem was also one of the most difficult with which the Education Authorities had to grapple. They (the Education Authorities) desired to make the curriculum elastic, and this, of course, must influence the architect to a very large extent in his design.

It was proposed to construct the school in such a manner that the subjects most called for in any particular district could be taught in them, and these subjects would probably change as time went on. It had been found, especially in Birmingham, that the requirements for advanced education varied according to the growth of a district, therefore it was desirable that the schools should be designed in such a manner as to permit of their being used, and used without inconvenience or discomfort, for entirely different subjects to those which were originally taught in them.

The training in the schools for the first 7 years, when the students' ages will range from 14 to 16, will be on very general lines, and a great deal of attention will be paid to development of character and manual training, literary work occupying a subordinate position.

It has been suggested, owing to the high cost of building, that the gymnasium should be constructed in such a manner and of such a size as to serve also as a central hall, provision being made in the design for the addition of a central hall at a later date. It is proposed to provide dressing rooms, and probably shower baths, in a position convenient to the gymnasium, also a club room and a kitchen, both of which would be fully appreciated by those students who had to come long distances and stay to meals.

The library would play an important part, connecting as it would the academic and social sides of the school.

To have efficient schools we must have efficient staffs, and to retain such staffs proper accommodation must be provided for them, and although it was not intended that the arrangements should be quite so elaborate as in schools of this type in Germany, it is proposed to improve upon the inadequate accommodation that exists in most of our schools to-day.

It is rather difficult to get the man in the street to realise how necessary it is that our educational facilities should be improved, and not until he does so will he be prepared to support the Government in the question of Continuation Schools. The cost of building is, like everything else, high, and houses, it is felt, should at this time

be the primary consideration. Education must not be so overlooked as in the past, it is a vital factor to the existence of the populace of the future, and what is spent now in the erection of these much needed institutions, the country will benefit by in the years to come.

Other speakers included Mr. E. C. Bowlay [F.], Mr. J. A. Harper, Mr. A. Harrison [F.], Mr. E. Wood, and Mr. A. L. Snow [A.].

## MINUTES. VII.

At the Seventh General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 2nd February, 1920, at 8.30 p.m.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair: 46 Fellows (including 18 members of the Council), 38 Associates (including 2 members of the Council), 4 Licentiates, 2 Hon. Associates, and numerous visitors—the Minutes of the Meeting held 19th January, 1920, having been taken as read, were signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of John Thomas Lee, elected *Fellow*, 1892, retired 1912, and Charles Frederick Thomas, *Licentiate*.

The Secretary announced the names of candidates for Fellowship and Associateship nominated by the Council for election \*

The Secretary announced the reinstatement to Associateship of George Alexander Thomas Middleton.

The President having delivered an ADDRESS TO STUDENTS, a vote of thanks was passed to him by acclamation on the motion of Sir Edward Busk, Chairman of Convocation of the University of London, seconded by Sir Stanley Leathes, K.C.B., of the Civil Service Commission, and was briefly responded to.

Mr. Arthur J. Davis [F.] read a REVIEW OF THE DESIGNS AND DRAWINGS SUBMITTED FOR THE YEAR'S PRIZES AND STUDENTSHIPS, and the President expressed to him the thanks of the Institute.

The Presentation of Prizes was then made by the President as follows:—

INSTITUTE SILVER MEDAL AND TWENTY-FIVE GUINEAS.

The Medal and cheque to Mr. H. Birkett Leighton [A.] for Essay on "Electrical Installations in Buildings."

INSTITUTE SILVER MEDAL AND TWENTY-FIVE GUINEAS.

The Medal and cheque to Mr. Arthur F. E. Poley for Measured Drawings of St. Paul's Cathedral.

SOANE MEDALLION.

The Medallion to Mr. Arthur Gordon Shoosmith [A.].

Certificate of Hon. Mention to Mr. George Alfred Rose [A.].

OWEN JONES STUDENTSHIP.

Certificate to Mr. G. F. Quarmby as Winner of the Studentship.

PUGIN STUDENTSHIP.

Mr. H. St. J. Harrison introduced as the Winner of the Studentship.

Medal of Merit to Mr. Gordon Holt.

TITE PRIZE.

Certificate to Mr. Percy H. Meldrum as Winner of the Prize.

Certificate of Hon. Mention to Mr. Verner O. Rees.

GRISSELL GOLD MEDAL AND TEN GUINEAS.

Medal and cheque to Mr. Frank H. Heaven [A.].

ASHPITEL PRIZE.

Books to Mr. Thomas Francis Ford.

The proceedings closed at 10 p.m.

### The President's Inaugural Address.

The President's Opening Address this session is printed in full in the December number of the *Toronto Journal Construction*.

\* See lists of names and addresses in the JOURNAL for 10th January and with proposer's names, in the current issue (p. 163).

## NOTICES.

## Candidates for Election at the Business Meeting to be held Monday, 1st March, 1920.

## AS FELLOWS (10).

- DALE: THOMAS LAWRENCE [A., 1907], 11 New Court, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.; Horsefair, Banbury. Proposed by E. Guy Dawber, Ernest Newton, R.A., and Arthur Keen.
- DIXON-SPAIN: LT.-COL. JOHN EDWARD, O.B.E. [A., 1900], 19 Hanover Square, W.1; 37 Belgrave Road, S.W.1. Proposed by Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., A. Blomfield Jackson and John W. Simpson.
- GOUGH: ARTHUR REUTLINGER [A., 1898], 24 Bridge Street, Bristol; 98 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol. Proposed by George H. Oatley, Graham C. Awdry and Richard C. James.
- GREGSON: THOMAS SEDGWICK [A., 1902], King's Buildings, Hornby Road, Bombay; Royal Bombay Yacht Club. Proposed by John Begg, E. Vincent Harris and Fred Rowntree.
- HENNINGS: ARTHUR WILLIAM [A., 1888], 34 Victoria Buildings, Manchester; Elm Bank, South Grove, Brooklands, Cheshire. Proposed by Isaac Taylor, Percy S. Worthington and Francis Jones.
- MATTHEWS: MAJOR BERNARD FRANK, R.E. [A., 1911], Army Headquarters, India; Military Works Branch, Simla. Proposed by William A. Pite, H. P. G. Maule and Professor Beresford Pite.
- NICHOLAS: CHARLES [A., 1905], 19 Hanover Square, W.1; Horton, Tadworth, Surrey. Proposed by Sir Aston Webb, W. Henry White and A. H. Kersey.
- POWERS: ERNEST MARSTON [A., 1909], 51 Standard Bank Chambers, Johannesburg, S. Africa; Caer-y-Din, Sharp Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg. Proposed by Frank Emley, Walter Reid and the Council.
- And the following Licentiates who have passed the Qualifying Examination:—
- FRY: LT.-COL. PETER GEORGE, C.M.G., D.S.O., 28 Waterloo Street, Weston-super-Mare; Woodford, All Saints' Road, Weston-super-Mare. Proposed by John W. Simpson, George H. Oatley and C. F. W. Denning.
- SHEPHEARD: THOMAS FAULKNER, c/o Shephard & Bower, Liberty Building, School Lane, Liverpool; 13 South Bank, Oxtou, Cheshire. Proposed by Hastwell Grayson, Arnold Thornely and E. Percy Hinde.

## AS ASSOCIATES (73).

- N.B.—All the Candidates have passed the Qualifying Examination (the Final, the Special, or the Special War Examination)—see JOURNAL, 10th January, pp. 115, 116.
- ADDISON: JOSEPH, 9 Church Terrace, Turriff, Aberdeenshire, N.B. Proposed by George Watt, J. A. O. Allan and A. Marshall Mackenzie.
- ARMSTRONG: EDWARD WILLIAM, c/o Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb, D.S.O., and E. Stanley Hall.
- BADCOCK: PAUL, 8 Woodside, N.W.4. Proposed by Geoffrey Lucas, Charles E. Vardell and Robert Atkinson.
- BARTLEY: ALVA MARTIN, Ewen Street, Takapuna, Auckland, N. Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Ernest Newton, R.A., and Herbert Wigglesworth.
- BEATTIE: OSCAR ALEXANDER, Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- BERRY: ARTHUR GILBERT, 7 London Street, Norwich. Proposed by George J. Skipper, F. M. Simpson and W. Henry White.
- BETHAM: ARTHUR ARCHER, 39 Bedford Square, W.C.1. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Thomas B. Whinney and Henry M. Fletcher.

- BLOOMFIELD: WILLIAM SWANSON READ, Gisborne, N. Zealand. Proposed by Percy B. Tubbs, Sir Charles Ruthen and the Council.
- BROAD: GORDON LESLIE, O.B.E., M.C., 18 Meadow Bank, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester. Proposed by Sir Henry Tanner, Walter Pott and R. J. Allison.
- CABLE: CHARLES JOHN, 23 Great Elms Road, Bromley, Kent. Proposed by A. G. R. Mackenzie, John C. T. Murray and Robert Atkinson.
- CARR: GERALD MOSMAN, M.B.E., Hiawatha, New South Head Road, Rose Bay, Sydney. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice E. Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- CASHMORE: FRANCIS MILTON, 18 London Street, W.2. Proposed by Ernest B. Glanfield, A. Dunbar Smith and F. Winton Newman.
- CHIPMAN: NOEL INGER-SOLL, 45 Lincoln Avenue, Montreal, Canada. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- CHRISTIAN: FREDERICK FISHER, 98 Newry Street, North Fitzroy, Melbourne. Proposed by the Council.
- CUNDELL: PHILIP HENRY, 13 Jesmond Avenue, Hilton Park, Prestwich, Lancs. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Isaac Taylor and Paul Ogden.
- DAVIES: DAVID OWEN HARRIS, "Maengwyn," Knoll Avenue, Swansea. Proposed by Arthur Stratton, Sidney Tatchell and Glendinning Moxham.
- DAVIES: WILLIAM GEORGE, 94 Jesmond Avenue, Bradford, Yorks. Proposed by W. Williamson, Frank H. Shayler and Eric Morley.
- DEAR: FRANK TWYDALE, 9 Haycroft Road, Brixton Hill, S.W. Proposed by Frank T. Verity, George Hornblower and F. Winton Newman.
- DRAFFIN: MALCOLM KEITH, King Edward Avenue, Epsom, Auckland, N. Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Herbert Wigglesworth and Ernest Newton.
- EDGEUMBE: JOHN HAROLD, Hamilton, Waikato, Auckland, N. Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., and Henry M. Fletcher.
- FINCH: CLIFFORD HORACE, Lord Street, Roseville, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- FORD: THOMAS FRANCIS (*Asphalt Priceman* 1919), 36 Hanover Park, Peckham, S.E.15. Proposed by W. A. Forsyth, H. B. Creswell and H. P. G. Maule.
- FRATER: ROBERT, 7 Bank Street, Greenock, N.B. Proposed by F. H. Tulloch, N. Fitzsimons and James Lochhead.
- GENTRY: EDGAR CHARLES, c/o Messrs. Grindlay & Co., 54 Parliament Street, S.W. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- GREENISH: FRANK EGGAR, Karori, Wellington, N. Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Herbert Wigglesworth and Ernest Newton.
- GRILSON: HUGH CRESSWELL, Queen Street, Auckland, N. Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Herbert Wigglesworth and Ernest Newton.
- HAMILTON: ROBERT BELL, c/o Architectural Association, 34 Bedford Square, W.C. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- HANNAFORD: LEONARD GORDON, 29 Matheson Road, West Kensington, W. Proposed by Sir Edw. Lutyens, A.R.A., W. Edward Riley and Arnold Thornely.
- HARDY: PHILIP, 7745 View Point Crescent, Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Canada. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, J. J. Joass and Geoffrey Lucas.
- HOLBROW: ALFRED ERNEST, 13 Cowper Road, Hanwell, W.7. Proposed by Professor A. E. Richardson, C. Lovett Gill and W. Henry White.
- HUBBARD: PHILIP WADDINGTON, M.A., 112 Fenchurch Street, E.C.3. Proposed by George Hubbard, John W. Simpson and Professor A. E. Richardson.
- IRWIN: LEIGHTON FRANCIS, 39 Tavistock Square, W.C. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice E. Webb and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.

- JACKMAN:** FREDERICK, Yateley Lodge Cottage, Yateley, Hants. Proposed by Alfred Cox, Frank E. Smees and W. Bevan.
- JEATER:** WILLIAM DAVID, "Weirona," Woodstock Street, Mayfield, Newcastle, N.S.W. Proposed by D. Barclay Niven, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- JEFFREYS:** HAROLD MURTON, Rylston Lodge, London Road, Maldon, Essex. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Wykeham Chancellor and Henry M. Fletcher.
- JEWELL:** HARRY HERBERT, 12 Great James Street, Bedford Row, W.C. Proposed by A. Dunbar Smith, Sidney K. Greenslade and Owen C. Little.
- JONES:** OWEN CAMPBELL, Skinners' Hall, 9 Dowgate Hill, E.C. Proposed by Arthur Blomfield, Leonard Stokes and Henry T. Hare.
- LEE:** ROBERT ARTHUR, Bank Street, Meadowbank, N.S.W., Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- LISLE:** BERTRAM EDWIN, 7 Observatory Road, East Sheen, S.W.14. Proposed by Henry T. Hare, Henry M. Fletcher and C. Wentner Smith.
- MCKENZIE:** JOHN CHARLES, 50 Kingscourt Road, Streatham, S.W. 16. Proposed by George Watt, J. A. O. Allan and A. Marshall Mackenzie.
- MACLAURIN:** ROBERT WILLIAM, P.O. Box 234, Gisborne, N. Zealand. Proposed by Percy B. Tubbs, A. Saxon Snell and the Council.
- McMICHAEL:** ALASTAIR MARSHALL, M.A., Commercial Bank House, Callander, Perthshire. Proposed by Walter S. A. Gordon, James S. Gibson and Herbert Wigglesworth.
- MAISEY:** SAMUEL REGINALD, 88 Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- MASSEY:** HORACE LOVELL, 9 Gower Street, W.C.1. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- MASTERS:** WILLIAM EWART, 3 Leaside Crescent, Golder's Green, N.W. Proposed by Frank T. Verity, John Murray and Edmund Wimperis.
- MELDRUM:** PERCY HAYMAN, 34 Cartwright Gardens, W.C.1. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Percy B. Tubbs and Arthur J. Davis.
- NATUSCH:** STANLEY, 27 Tanza Road, N.W.3. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- NISBET:** ALEC, 37 Avenue Terrace, York. Proposed by Walter H. Brierley, John Watson and F. W. Deas.
- NOWLAND:** RAYMOND CLARE, Ashfield, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- OPLE:** ARNOLD MOSTYN, Azalea Street, Prospect, Adelaide, South Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- PILDITCH:** PHILIP HAROLD, Myrtleberry, West End Avenue, Pinner. Proposed by Thos. E. Colclutt, Edwin T. Hall and E. Stanley Hall.
- REID:** GORDON STUART, c/o The Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.1. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- REIDY:** EDWARD DANILL, "Te Kainga," Kohnama Avenue, Herne Bay, Auckland, N.Z. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- RHIND:** JAMES ELLABY, 6 Victoria Terrace, Inverness. Proposed by A. Marshall Mackenzie, J. A. O. Allan and Alexander Ross.
- RETWALD:** CYRIL C., Palmer Street, Chatswood, Sydney, Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- SALL:** FREDERICK, c/o The Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- SAVEGE:** OLIVER FREDERICK, c/o Messrs. Adams, Little and Wood, Hong Kong. Proposed by James S. Gibson, E. Guy Dawber and Walter S. A. Gordon.
- SMART:** JACK STROCKLE, "Rob Roy," Middle Street, South Kensington, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- SMART:** ROY ARCHIBALD, 43 Hawthorn Grove, Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- SOUZA:** WALTER EDWARD DE, 20 Woodville Road, Golders Green, N.W. Proposed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, A.R.A., Charles E. Vaindell and Robert Atkinson.
- STEPHENSON:** ARTHUR GEORGE, 2 Mimms End, South Mimms, Middlesex. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- STEVENSON:** ROY KENNETH, Mandeville Hall, Clendon Road, Toorak, Victoria, Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and G. Gilbert Scott.
- STODART:** ROBERT WILLIAM, 19 Fairlawn Avenue, Chiswick, W.4. Proposed by S. B. Russell, Henry A. Saul and the Council.
- TANNER:** EDGAR ALLAN DAVY, 18 Hestercombe Avenue, Munster Road, Fulham, S.W.6. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- THOMAS:** PERCY EDWARD, O.B.E., 6 & 7 St. John Square, Cardiff. Proposed by Harry Toather, George E. Halliday and Lennox Robertson.
- THOMAS:** STANLEY KNIGHT, Castle View, Usk, Monmouthshire. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- TURNER:** DONALD K., Abbotsford, Sydney, Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- WEBB:** KENNETH EDWARD, Kent Road, Rose Bay, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by E. Guy Dawber and the Council.
- WHITE:** JAMES HODGE, Albert Lodge, Albert Place, W.8. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice E. Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- WILKES:** FRANCIS HILTON, B.Arch., "Hyrneham," Brantford, Ontario, Canada. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- WILLIAMSON:** JOHN WALLACE, 94 Devizes Road, Salisbury. Proposed by Lt.-Col. Edw. J. Bridges, O.B.E., and the Council.
- WOODHOUSE:** FRANCIS PERCY MARK, Southmead, Wimbledon Park, S.W. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- WYATT:** LESLIE HERBERT WILLIAM, 69 Tierney Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.2. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice Webb and E. Stanley Hall.

### General Meeting, Monday, 16th February

The SEVENTH GENERAL MEETING (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20 will be held MONDAY, 16th FEBRUARY, 1920, at 8 p.m. for the following purposes:—

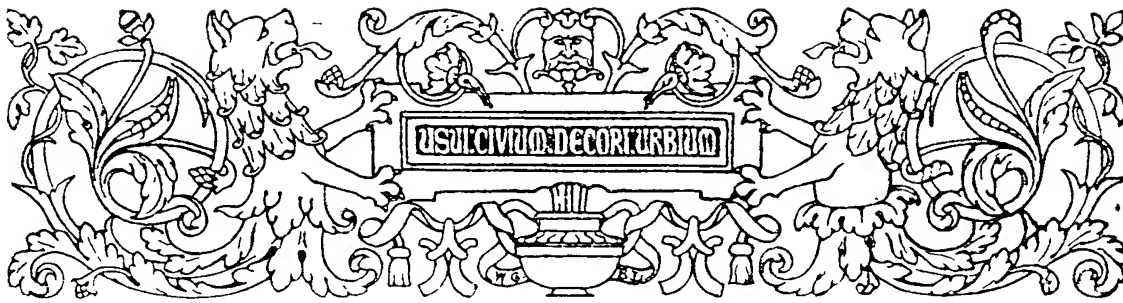
To read the Minutes of the Meeting held Monday, 2nd February, formally to admit Members attending for the first time since their election

To read the following Paper:

### THE FUTURE OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION By PAUL WATERHOUSE, F.S.A. [F.]

AN ASSOCIATE in starting in practice, having a large experience in factory and domestic work, is prepared to assist other architects in his own office. Address: "H. G." c/o Secretary R.I.B.A. 9 Conduit Street, W.

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## THE FUTURE OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

By PAUL WATERHOUSE, M.A.Oxon., F.S.A. [F.].

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 16th February, 1920.

IT is sometimes considered elegant to preface or conclude an address on education by a suggestion that etymologically the word education means not to put knowledge into the young, but to draw it forth. I shall not use this text; for the simple reason that education means nothing of the kind. It does literally mean, of course, "drawing out," but not in the sense of inviting babes and sucklings to air their ignorance among their elders. The Romans, who after all are the best judges of a Latin word, understood by it either the leading forth or training of a young farm animal, or more metaphorically, the leading forth of the young of mankind out of pristine ignorance into knowledge.

There is, to tell the truth, very little profit in defining education, for however you define it you ultimately come up against the use of the word "interest," of which no definition is possible. The process of teaching is merely that of shortening the process of absorption by the pupil. The teachers shorten or facilitate the process of absorption in two ways—first, by placing the facts to be absorbed within easy reach of the pupil, and, secondly, by stimulating his appetite for the facts. This stimulation can be effected by prizes, by the rod, by competition, or by simple personal appeal; but in every case the ultimate form which the appetite takes is interest. We could talk all the evening about the meaning of interest, but without much advantage, for, as far as I know, it is absolutely undefinable. The word describes by the cleverest of Roman similitudes the most mysterious of human faculties, the very mainspring of mental life.

The teaching of art differs from the teaching of science. Architecture is a science and an art. It therefore demands teaching of the two kinds. Some people will aver that you cannot teach an art, others that the teaching of art is solely a matter of elicitation. In fact, these latter are nearly at one with the folk I have just alluded to who say that education is the drawing out of that which is already in the pupil. But it probably is true that the difference between the teaching of art and the teaching of science simply lies in this—that in teaching a science you lay before the pupil facts which he is to store and use for himself as facts, whereas in teaching art you lay, it is true, facts before the pupil, but facts which he is to digest and to reproduce in his own form. I find that I am always coming round, in thoughts on education, to Bacon's parable of the ant, the bee, and the spider. The ant that accumulates and neatly stores, the spider who seemingly produces from his unassisted inside yards of original weaving, and the bee who both receives and gives—receives pollen, gives honey and the honeycomb. Bacon's use of his parable is not exactly ours at this moment, but it serves our turn. The learning of science is like the accumulation practised by the ant. The ant and the learner of science have to receive and store certain things as they find them—immutable laws of mathematics, apparently immutable laws of physics. The learner of art has no less to collect facts, but it is the business of his training, the business of his life, to give back those facts as honey. If a man attempts, as many architects have done, to go into the honey-producing business without the preliminary visits

to flower after flower he becomes a spider. This is not merely rambling on my part. I have brought myself by these insect studies to the main theme of my address. The business of all of us who are pledged to the fine task of architectural education is the crushing underfoot of spiders.

It will be of interest to me, if not to my hearers, to review very briefly the course of architectural education in the past half century. Before 1882 men entered the profession solely through the medium of pupilage; or, rather, I should say that before that date pupilage was the only accredited test of a man's having been educated as an architect. I have an impression that our Institute virtually insisted on evidence of articles before admitting a candidate to election as Associate. Many hard things have been said about pupilage as a means of education, and many of these hard things have been deserved. A pupil's master had, in most cases, the best of reasons for withholding from his pupil any full measure of what we now understand by education. If the office was a small one the pupil was often kept at the beginning to menial tasks and promoted at the end to responsibilities for which he was unripe. If the office was large—the working place of some great man—the pupil found himself one of a herd of scholars whose remoteness from the actual mainsprings of operation was such as to give them very little touch with the actualities of production and procedure. Still, between these extremes there were, as many men still living know, scores, perhaps hundreds, of honest artists who gave to the young men under their charge careful training, good advice, valuable experience, true friendship, and, to end all, a start in life.

But the Institute saw that education in architecture must on no account be left to the haphazard whim of the collectors of premiums. It determined to establish the test of examinations. Beginning with the thin end of a very excellent wedge they invited candidates to a voluntary examination, and the invitation was not very widely accepted. To this succeeded in 1882 the obligatory examination, without passing which no aspirant was to be admitted to the Associateship. The examination was not competitive, no order of merit was accorded to the competitors, but it was dowered in memory of the late Mr. Arthur Ashpitel with a prize for the best candidate of the year. What the establishment of that obligatory test has meant to the present generation of elder architects it is difficult to say: one thing it certainly initiated—a race of architectural teachers. In saying this I am not unmindful of the fact that certain Professor-ships in Architecture had already been established. It remains true that training on definite uniform lines was yet to come. In other words, systematised architectural education began, if not to walk, at least to toddle.

Probably the hardest thing that can be said about those small beginnings of forty years ago is that they led to the birth of the crammer, and here I come to a digression on crammers. Crammer is a cruel word and does someone an injustice every time it is used. It implies a teacher who supplies a pupil with a certain load of facts and who succeeds in so attaching this load to the pupil that he can carry it for a certain number of days and successfully unload it on a given day. The word, of course, also implies that the loaded one carries his burden, so to speak, on the lid of his brain, and that when once it has been cast off, the intellect of the bearer becomes immune from the load or only retains such traces of its ingredients as have no effect on his mentality.

Now it is obvious, of course, that cramming is only a question of degree. Every teacher is a crammer in the sense that he helps to ladle into the taught some things which the taught would not, by the mere action of his own appetite, absorb or even think of as food. But if there are men who really make a living out of feeding young minds with meat which the young minds discharge at examiners in an undigested condition, where does the fault lie? Obviously and wholly with examiners. There can be no possible excuse at any time for holding examinations in any subject anywhere on such lines that candidates can pass by the mere emission of undigested facts or figures. If an examination cannot test knowledge it had better not test anything.

To return to the Institute and its regard for education. Its Charter of 1887 took powers for the increasing of its examination system by establishing the now well-known progressive tests known as the

Preliminary, Intermediate and Final Examinations. It is one of the Englishman's outstanding characteristics to defile his own nest. It is not mere modesty which induces him to carry this dirty habit to a fine art. We abuse everything which is national and everybody whom we have placed in power. Naturally, it seems, we shrink from praising our own goods among strangers of other countries, other towns, other professions than ours. It almost appears at the present moment as if the only single subject on which Britons have a united and patriotic pride is the character of the Prince of Wales. I mention this tendency of ours because it is sometimes necessary to inquire when we launch into an attack whether we are really going to mean what we are going to say, or whether we are simply intending from force of habit to wipe our boots once more on the poor old nest.

This is a preface to my deliberate announcement that the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1887 did a very fine and very disinterested thing. It was foreseeing, too, and far-seeing. It laid down the framework of a structure which was in a short while to exceed even its designers' expectations. I might change the metaphor and say that it became the mother of a child who was in thirty years to be old enough and strong enough to forget and rather despise his parent. I quite fail to see why we should overlook or conceal the plain facts of this case. The Institute set out to "obtain for all those entering the Profession a systematic course of education." Those are the Institute's own printed words. To those words she added that this education was to be "tested by progressive examinations the passing of which" should form "the primary qualification for admission to its class of Associates." I cannot recall those days of the initiation of our examination system without a tribute to the organising skill, the driving force and the wise foreknowledge of an old friend whom we happily commemorate in the name of one of our examination prizes—the late Arthur Cates.

I want to make a short survey of the scope of the Progressive Examinations. Let me, before I do so, estimate for a moment what it was that our fathers' generation did when they made the principle of a qualifying examination obligatory. It was in truth an unselfish deed that they wrought, and though the Institute may feel bashful about praising the Institute, no modesty need prevent a generation from acknowledging what it owes to the generosity of the generation behind it. In those days pupilage reigned supreme as the accepted method of gentlemanly entry to the profession. The scale of premiums varied with the position or demanding powers of the principal. Something approaching £100 a year was not an unusual sum in a good office, and though the pupil was a drag on work in his first year, he became in his second equal to doing sufficient tracing to make his time worth something, and in his third and fourth he was good enough to have been worth, if unarticled, 15s., £1 or 25s. by way of salary. It is clear therefore that, allowing for the existence of duffers, an architect who kept an average of three pupils going for four years each made from £250 to £300 a year out of pupil-taking. This gain, in the interests of the education of the future race, our forerunners were prepared to risk, and, as it has turned out, they not only risked but lost. For nowadays, thanks to the educational facilities which were the direct result of the establishment of the Examinations, and particularly of the threefold progressive tests, it is common enough for a young man to get himself trained at a school from the start and to delay entry into an office till a time when he is more likely to demand a salary than to pay a premium.

The Progressive Examinations consist, as we all know, of the Preliminary, the Intermediate and the Final. The Preliminary is no more than a test of general school education plus a minimum knowledge of draughtsmanship. We naturally accept certificates or examinations of a large number of recognised Universities, colleges and schools as the equivalent of the general portion of our examination, and we allow candidates to submit evidences of their past performances in the way of drawing, which, if considered satisfactory, exempt them also from the technical part of the test. The meanings of this Preliminary Examination and of our recognised exemptions therefrom are, first, that we insist on a reasonable standard of grounding in History, Geography, Literature, Mathematics and Science; second, that we call for at least some witness to the applicant's hope of being able to draw; and third, that we



very thankfully acknowledge the ability of most decent secondary schools to equip a candidate with all that we ask for at this stage.

The Intermediate Examination brings the candidate to grips with the realities of architectural study. I choose the word study deliberately, for it is the aim of this test, as of the Final Examination, to make sure not only that the candidate can answer questions, but that he shall have spent a reasonable period of time in steady work. It is to this end that our regulations demand the production of Testimonies of Study. Of what those Testimonies of Study consist most members of this audience know full well. It is enough here to state that nominally they consist of eight sheets of half double elephant, two of which represent the orders, two more contain measured work, one deals with ornament, and the three remaining represent carpentry and other construction. In regard to these the Institute is reasonable, and inasmuch as the whole object of these testimonies is to prove that there has been on the part of the candidate practical exercise in architectural subjects, we allow certain work done in the Royal Academy School and in the Architectural Association School to be accepted in lieu of the standard requirements. The written part of the examination, which occupies three days, consists of two papers on styles, history, and features, two upon construction, practical and theoretical, and a fifth paper, the subject of which is optional, giving the candidate the choice of specialising in a rudimentary way in Architectural History, Mathematics and Mechanics or Elementary Design.

I want to leave unconsidered for the moment the very important system of exemptions from the Intermediate Examination and to pass on to a view of the Final and its scope. In this test, as in the previous one, great importance is attached to the work which has to be submitted before the candidate is admitted to sit for the written and oral examination. Naturally this final test concerns itself very largely with the question of design. Every six months the Institute publishes subjects on which, or rather on a choice of which, the candidates may work, and each candidate before admission to the examination has to submit four designs of sufficient merit to be approved by the Board of Architectural Education. In addition to these designs—in which a certain latitude is allowed to prize winners in the Institute Design competitions, and to students of the Royal Academy—each candidate has to offer an original thesis on a historical, scientific or aesthetic subject kindred to architecture. In the examination itself the merely catechetical portion is limited to hygiene, materials, construction, and professional practice, the greater part of the time—three days in fact—being devoted to the actual working out of an original design on a set subject.

It will be seen that this examination is distinctly supplemental to the Intermediate test—a fulfilment of it, so to speak, and that it is destined to be a criterion, as far as such a criterion is a possibility, of a candidate's full powers as an artist in design, a specialist in construction and a man of business. It is often argued that you cannot examine an artist in art—it is for that matter also argued that you cannot teach art. The answer to the latter argument is that if you cannot teach art some men can certainly learn it, and to the first that though no examination can plumb the depths of the unfathomable or measure the heights of the sublime, it can certainly slam the door on those who show that they have neither depths nor heights in their constitution.

To return to the Intermediate. The Institute, true to its policy of assisting rather than embarrassing the student, and anxious by every means in its power to promote and encourage the means of education, has very wisely decreed that the courses of certain very carefully selected schools should be accepted as substitutes for the passing of this Examination. Without going through the complete list of these schools it is enough to mention as examples the Architectural Association of London and the Architectural Schools of the Universities of London, Liverpool and Manchester. The Institute's hold on the qualifications of these recognised courses is secured by the verdicts of external examiners or visitors. These examiners are for the most part members of the Board of Architectural Education, or if not are persons in whose judgment on the subject of standard the Board can place entire confidence.

I have purposely run through this brief synopsis of our Examination system in the most cursory

way because the information is all easily accessible in our printed publications, and because I want to devote the remainder of my time to some consideration of the future. I hope it will be understood that though I hold official position as Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education, I now speak as an individual. There are no party politics in architecture, and there is therefore no obligation of loyalty to any particular line of opinion. I believe these matters are so important that it is necessary for every one who has had the opportunity of giving thought to them to express his views without any bias.

The whole objects of the Examination system as fostered and controlled by this Institute are first to make sure that sound education is going on in the country, and secondly to make sure that only those who have successfully learned architecture are admitted as Associates of our body.

You will notice that I have used the word "learned" instead of "been educated." There is an important distinction here. The Institute has owed and will continue to owe incalculable thanks, on behalf of architecture, to the personnel of the teaching profession. That profession has grown up in our own lifetime, and has been recruited almost exclusively from the men who owed their own education, directly or indirectly, to the Examination system. Their knowledge of the difficulties, opportunities and circumstances which beset the teaching of architecture are very great, and the presence of many of their number on the Board of Education is of the highest possible value. Now it always has to be remembered, and it is very easily forgotten, that learning is a much more important thing than teaching. Teaching is nothing more, in its noblest development, than an aid to learning. I mention this rather elementary fact because there is abroad a school of thought which insists that the class of education a man receives is of more importance than the class of knowledge he has obtained by learning. I say without reservation that I do not care where a man has been educated or how he has been educated so long as he knows.

Having said this, I wish to appear to contradict it by saying also that I am no enemy whatever to the schoolishness of schools. Some critics have suggested that in some of the more flourishing seats of architectural learning there is too academic a spirit, that the work produced is too much of one type, and that the actual designing is in a groove of too great similarity. This I admit I do not fear in the least—in fact, I believe that those who fear it most are forgetting what is the nature of architecture.

Nor, of course, is there anything to be said by me or any sensible person against the multiplication of architectural schools. The more the better—if they are all good. So long as it is remembered that a school is primarily a place in which to learn, and only secondarily a place in which to teach, we can continue to give as we do unqualified thanks for the great benefits they have rendered and are continually rendering to the standard of knowledge among young practising architects.

An interesting and most encouraging sign of our present condition in connection with architectural education is the growth of a strong and very divergently expressed enthusiasm on the subject of reform. It is rather difficult when voices clamour from every side in tones of violent disagreement to be in sympathy with all the clamourers, but in spite of this difficulty I am tempted to lay claim to such sympathy: for the clamour covers, in all its manifestations, that wholesome energy which is the mainspring of progress. From one quarter there comes the insistent suggestion that what is needed for the enlargement of educational growth is the abolition of the stranglehold of the R.I.B.A., and it is contended by this group of believers that the whole control of the examining system should be in the hands of the Universities. To do this group justice, I do not suppose they really mean to exclude from the controlling bodies a certain school of architecture which won its way to pre-eminence before some of the said Universities were born, and which is certainly not behind them in standard of excellence. Others insist that examination can only be fairly conducted by professional teachers: some, I believe, maintain that a student should only be examined by his own teachers. By some it is felt that the Institute should do its utmost to prolong the period of study, and as a consequence should delay the age of entering the profession. All these contentions can, I think, be cleared of those elements which are

foreign to the real point of issue, and can be boiled down to what many people would call reform, but which I should prefer to call by a different name. The word reformation implies one of some sort in the person or body to be reformed. For myself I can see no vice whatever in the prevailing system. All that it suffers from is the old familiar nursery ailment of growing pains. The education system is becoming a big boy—a very big boy by now, and what is needed is nothing more than an adjustment in order to bring the machinery of his existence into line with the facts of his new conditions. The call for a more intimate participation in the examination system, the demand for greater stimulus to higher education, the wish for a wider territorial extension of the benefits of such education can all, I think, be met by very simple devices of organization. One clamour I hope will never be met—the voice, I mean, of those who desire that the body which started the educational improvement which superseded mere pupilage should abandon its interest in education and should hand the keys of entry to its own body over to other institutions.

The Board of Education in Architecture must be strengthened, enlarged, so as to be representative of all the national interests which concern themselves with architectural education, and made capable of securing the services of every human and national force which cares about its ends; but it must remain a body appointed or invited by the R.I.B.A., it must jealously and zealously serve the interests of the Institute in excluding unsuitable men from membership, and it must or should be the permanent national force in the control of the examination system. How is all this to be carried out? In the first place the bonds which at present unite our Board to the teaching bodies of the country must be enlarged. This can be done without any loss of dignity by the Institute and with a great increase of prestige. Every large recognised school, recognised I mean in our technical sense, should have representation on the Board. Similarly there should be on the Board such representation as we may be able to invite, and to secure all national bodies interested in our work. We should not, I think, shrink from inviting the Education Offices of England and Scotland, the Royal Academy and the older Universities to help us by the presence of their nominees. The Council here would retain the right of electing from our Institute the main body of the Board, but the effect of the enlargement in the directions indicated would be to make it national as well as professional in character.

Obviously and very rightly a Board of this increased size and rather changed mentality would be administrative and deliberative rather than executive, and it would remit the functions of detailed control to a sub-committee largely composed of teaching members of the Board, whose duties, however, would be strictly controlled by the Board itself. They would in fact be responsible to the Board. No one knows at this moment how far the State itself may take interest in and give aid to architectural education; but it is well to keep such possibilities in view, and it is clear that the State could only welcome the appearance of an authority which by its power and its widespread constituents is ready to be the proper channel for any State help—I don't merely mean money—that may be forthcoming.

I make this suggestion with full knowledge of the criticisms that may assail it, and am prepared to hear that I am treading on dangerous ground. No ground is dangerous to those who know how to tread, and I want to see our Institute slip forward boldly to let the world know that she is visibly as well as actually the presiding force in education for our profession.

As for our relationship to the schools, I propose, as you see, to strengthen it by a more real admission of the schools to representation. We have been asked to give the schools greater rein by according recognition such as will exempt students not only from our Intermediate Examinations, but also from our Final Examination. This cannot wholly be done. The schools ask too much when they demand, even under limitations, that we should consider any man as qualified for our Associateship without having examined him ourselves in any degree whatever. The most reasonable compromise in regard to this point would be as follows. Some of us are hoping that the professional part of our Final Examination should be enlarged into something more real than it is at present. Our idea is that no student should be considered passed for Associateship until he has obtained two certificates—one in the

artistic and technical side of his craft and the other in the professional, and that he should be allowed to pass first whichever of these two departments of test his own circumstances dictate as most convenient. If, therefore, any schools arrive at such a condition of supremacy as to be worthy of obtaining for their students exemption from a large part of our *Final Examination*, it should be possible to arrange that the Institute, while always continuing to hold its own examinations, should grant such a measure of exemption to the students of selected schools as would not abrogate its own power of saying the final word as to a candidate's fitness. The Institute, in fact, might say to the schools something of this kind: Our examination is now of two parts—the technical and the professional. We will not grant to any other body than ourselves the right of passing applicants in the professional test; that is our affair, and we are the best and the sole judges of it. With regard to the technical part of our qualifying examination, we are willing (subject to such safeguards as at present protect our exemptions from the Intermediate Examination) to recognise as qualifying for exemption certain advanced courses and examinations of selected universities and schools, subject always to this proviso—that our examining body must in every case be judges of the standard reached in design. My own view on this particular subject, which has already been the subject of friendly debate between the Board of Architectural Education and the Council, is that the Institute might retain its essentially necessary hold on the design test without insisting that the design examination should be conducted on the Institute premises. In fact, I imagine that it might be possible for a school pupil of a school "recognised" for the Final Examination to pass the whole of his exemption test on the school or university premises, except that he would necessarily have to pass the Professional Examination at the Institute, and that his exemption on the technical side would not be obtainable until the Institute had passed the *drawings* produced by him in the design test at his university or school.

A word should here be said about the control on the standard of the schools which the Institute should continue to exercise. At present this hold is secured by the fact that in the first place no school is admitted to "recognition" rank except after a special inspection by members of the Board of Architectural Education, and secondly, the courses and examinations on which the recognition is based are constantly under the eye of external examiners, all of whom are either appointed or nominated by the Board, or otherwise in touch with it. That hold, if I may so term the very amicable relationship at present prevailing, will need to be strengthened and systematised. It is at least probable that the existing arrangement as regards external examiners will be suitably supplemented by the appointment of inspectors. The reasons for this I need not enter into, especially as the point, which is a purely administrative one, may be brought out in the debate which follows my paper.

I realise that I have spoken at tedious length. The fault is not so much mine as that of the vastness of the subject. There are many essential topics which I have not touched. It does not follow that I have forgotten their importance. Improvement of the syllabus: the *personnel* of the examining staff; the payment of examiners; the proper age for beginning and ceasing to be an examiner: the necessity for a rotation among the external examiners or visitors: the proper age for visitors and external examiners: the character of the chairman of the Board—all these are matters of great importance and of a highly debatable character, which shortness of time prevents me from approaching to-night. I had also hoped to enlarge on the benefactions with which generous donors have in various towns endowed the study of architecture, town-planning and kindred subjects. It would be ungrateful not to give public thanks for these, though I cannot here enlarge upon them.

But I have one final general word to say—an echo of something which I said a short while back. It has been suggested that if our examination system had years ago been liberated from the embrace of the Institute (I prefer the word "embrace" to stranglehold), the British Government would have recognised architects, when the war broke out, as useful and employable assets; that a demonstrably low standard of intelligence and attainments among British architects led to the setting aside of the architectural profession as a useless unit in the national crisis, and that the Royal Institute of British

Architects is to blame, and alone to blame, for the fact that an all-wise and all-seeing Ministry was in the right when it wrote us off as negligible incompetents.

The idea that university control would have saved the situation doesn't appeal to me and doesn't worry me. I have the most genuine belief in the teaching power of the excellent schools which the young universities have started, and of the still young schools which some of the older ones have established. I have also a genuine and hopeful belief in the non-university schools which are springing up and multiplying all around us: and lastly, I have an old affection and loyal admiration for the heroic Architectural Association and its unsurpassed record of educational achievement. In fact, I believe that the vigour of architectural education all over the country is one of the healthiest and most brilliant things in an England which is not always brilliant and not in all its departments healthy; but I cannot be persuaded by any threats or arguments that there is any reason whatever why the Royal Institute of British Architects should release its love of or its affectionate hold upon the education system which it promoted, fostered, and still controls.

*A full report of the discussion on the foregoing Paper  
will appear in the next issue of the JOURNAL.*

## NOTES ON A NOBLE LIFE — HONORÉ DAUMET.

By THE PRESIDENT.

No modern French architect commanded such universal and affectionate regard in his profession as Honoré Daumet; and the Royal Institute will welcome the finely printed and illustrated volume,\* recently presented to the Library, which records his life and work. The author of the memoir, Charles Girault is one of the two pupils (the other, Louis Bernier, died this year) who had the honour of joining their Master as members of the Institut de France, where he was so greatly honoured as a leader. Himself the most brilliant living exponent of French architectural art, his high professional reputation, happily united with a sympathetic personality, has made him the natural successor to the position which Daumet held so long. Fate has been kind of late to our profession, and with Sir Aston Webb President of our own Royal Academy, and M. Ch. Girault in a like position at the Académie des Beaux-Arts, the glass slipper is at last fitted to the foot of Architecture, and the Cinderella of the arts becomes the acknowledged Princess.

In the obituary Discourse delivered before the members of the Académie on the death of Daumet, the orator, M. Roujon,† took for his text the words of François Blondel, at the inauguration by Colbert of the

Académie royale d'Architecture: \* " Pour être vraiment architecte, il ne suffit pas d'avoir une médiocre connaissance des règles de cet art excellent. Cette qualité demande un concours de tant de vertus et de connaissances différentes que la vie ne suffit pas pour l'acquiescer. " The life of Daumet was, indeed, wholly devoted to the rectitude of conduct and manifold knowledge which his great predecessor indicated as necessary to the true architect. There was, I often thought, something of the sacerdotal in his character. Of a very sweet gravity, even in his youth (" We always called him ' Monsieur ' Daumet," said Pascal), he was, as it were, ordained to his art: had he not been a prelate of Architecture, he must certainly have found his vocation as a prince of the Church.

Although class distinction in France is by no means obliterated since the Revolution, the education in common of rich and poor is of immense advantage to the man who rises from the ranks. He is not handicapped by the unpleasing intonation, or lack of aspirates, which marks with us the child of a mean street as of different birth from the public-school boy. His phonetics are those of his equals at any stage of his career. The speech of Daumet was perfect, his fragile voice of beautiful and delicate quality; many supposed him to be of " vieille souche." He represented the best type of refined French gentleman (and how delightful that is!), yet he was of very humble origin. His mother was a poor hard-working woman of the " petit-commerce," and young Daumet ran her errands and helped in the little shop: eventually becoming " office-boy " to M. Hérard, an architect. Thence he went as clerk to M. Saint-Père, filled his evenings with hard study, was admitted free to the atelier Blouet, and, at twenty years of age, gained admission to the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. The road was now open; he earned his living by day, studied at night—his devoted mother watching beside him to keep him awake—and, at twenty-nine, carried off the Grand-Prix de Rome.

\* " Notes sur la Vie et les Œuvres de Honoré Daumet, membre de l'Institut, etc., 1926-1911, précédées d'une préface de Léon Heuzey, membre de l'Institut, et accompagnées d'une trentaine de reproductions en noir et en couleurs. Par Charles Girault, membre de l'Institut, Inspecteur-Général des Bâtiments civils et Palais nationaux." Paris: Victor Jacquemais, 1919, in-4, papier d'Arches, br. couv.

† Then Secrétaire-perpétuel de l'Académie; succeeded at his death by the present Secrétaire, M. Ch. Widor, the eminent composer.

\* 31 December, 1671.

He returned from Rome in 1861. The Emperor Napoléon III., being then fired with the ambition to write a monumental Life of Caesar, desired topographical surveys of the battle-fields of Philippi and the Pharsalia: Léon Heuzey, the archæologist, surviving and lifelong friend of Daumet—who writes the preface to Girault's biography—was selected for the task, and invited young Daumet to undertake the architectural details. A steam corvette, "La Biche," was placed at the disposal of the expedition; it was the morrow of the Crimean war, and the Turks received them with all honour. The friends explored Macedonia, Thrace, Illyria, Epirus, and returned with many classic trophies which are now at the Louvre. Daumet then entered the architectural department of the city of Paris, acting as junior to Gilbert and Questel.

The work of Daumet as an architect was too considerable to describe here. At first in collaboration with Louis Duc, and later alone, he did much of the reconstruction of the Palais de Justice, in particular the Cour d'Appel with its extensive appurtenances, and all the central block between the Cour Saint-Martin and the Galerie Marchande; at Grenoble he restored and enlarged the Law Courts and built the Hôtel des Facultés for the University: carried out, too, the restoration of the famous Roman theatre at Orange, and of the Basilica of Saint-Pierre at Vienne. His most notable achievement was the resurrection, for General Henri d'Orléans (Duc d'Aumale), of the Château de Chantilly, the historic dwelling of the Montmorency and Condé families, destroyed during the Revolution: the chapel is undoubtedly the finest of his creations. Chief architect of the Château de Saint-Germain-en-Laye, the continuation of the extensive works begun by Millet occupied him to the very last.

His relations with his great clients were very happy, though the gentle Daumet was inflexible where artistic principles were concerned, and is said to have had furious discussions with the Duc d'Aumale ("Pas toujours commode, Daumet," said he). Yet when the Duke invited the members of the Institut to inspect the splendid property which, with its priceless contents, was his free gift to them, he insisted that his dear architect and ally should do the honours, and show to his fellow members the wonders of Chantilly. Leopold II. of Belgium was not, perhaps, a very popular personage in England, but he was a great builder; he would spend hours with his friend Daumet at his drawing-board, working out vast schemes fit to occupy two or three generations of architects. Some of these projects were executed for the King by Girault, the designer's favourite pupil.

But it was, above all, as a teacher that Daumet was revered. Apart from the great success of the atelier he founded in 1862, it was his real love for the students, his pleasure in their company, the enthusiastic interest he took in their studies, his pride in their triumphs, that made him so powerful a leader,

so great an influence for good in his profession. Had his modesty allowed, he might have claimed like Solomon, "I have taught thee in the way of wisdom, I have led thee in right paths." This frail, placid, urbane gentleman was, moreover, a very lion when there was question of defending the rights and privileges of his fellow-architects; under the velvet glove was the iron hand of the Master. I had the greatest love and veneration for him, and treasure the knowledge that he extended his affection to me—a stranger. When a compliment was paid me, after his death, his son's\* first words of congratulation were: "How this would have pleased my father had he lived!" I commend the example of his life to all students of our art; and our thanks are due to the distinguished architect of the Petit Palais and the Palais de Laeken for the way in which he has performed the pious duty of recording it.

J. W. S.

## THE AMERICAN'S HOME.

UNTIL recent years the builders of houses in this country kept one Big Idea always in mind. They said in effect, "There are more women than men. Ninety-nine per cent. of the women spend practically all their lives in domestic duties, and they may be divided into three classes: (1) Those who work for other people; (2) Those who do their own work; (3) Those who look after Class (1). The trivial rounds, the common tasks are good for their souls and bodies. Therefore we will build houses that will keep women well employed." British thoroughness cannot point to any other idea that achieved a greater success. Houses were built many storeys high. There was no water upstairs. Bath water had to be boiled in kettles. All slops had to be carried down to the ground floor or to the basement. There was much polishing of grates, outside and inside door furniture and washing of hearths and steps. The makers of the thousand-and-one household utensils enthusiastically followed the builder's lead. The Big Idea met with a cold reception in America. An undeveloped country of immense wealth with a small population and fewer women than men naturally wanted to make the most of everybody's powers. Labour-saving was quickly recognised as a necessity, and this affected the plan to a big extent: so that to-day the American kitchen is a model of efficiency for the whole world. But the Big Idea had a certain value, and much stiffening of backbones and fibres may be traced to it. There was the notable case of the youth of humble origin who rose to fame by his thoroughness in carrying out prosaic duties. He gives us in his own words the secret of his success:—

"I polished up that handle so carefuller  
That now I am the ruler of the Queen's Navee."

\* Georges Daumet, already eminent as an antiquarian, archiviste-paléographe-consultant aux Archives Nationales, died December, 1918, aged 48.

We must see to it, then, that in removing the drudgery we put something better in its place, or labour-saving may mean merely more time for getting into mischief.

The big cities of America grew so quickly that the authorities could not keep pace with them. This has led to serious difficulties in the housing of the working classes; and, as with us, the War has brought the matter to a head.

The National Housing Association, New York, has kindly sent to the Institute a big parcel of books and pamphlets,\* that discuss these difficulties and show how they are being met. Two of the most interesting pamphlets to architects are *Indian Hill* and *Industrial Housing Developments in America*, which deal with new villages formed by industrial companies. Mr. Grosvenor Atterbury is the architect of Indian Hill, and Messrs. George Post & Sons of Eclipse Park. They have used great skill in the general planning and in the individual houses. Photographs are given of Indian Hill showing the most charming houses and streets. Eclipse Park is less mature and only plans and elevations are given. The plans of both schemes are so delightfully simple that they look quite easy and almost obvious. Comparing them with ours the most prominent points are:—1. Every house has a basement for wash-house, heating stove, fuel and stores. 2. In many cases the living room is a hall, with the entrance, stairs and dining-room opening into it. 3. The working kitchen is big, and in the smaller houses it serves also as a dining-room. 4. Sun porches and verandahs abound. 5. The biggest bedrooms are small, very few being over 130 superficial feet; but there are seldom less than four, and all are of useful size. Every bedroom has a generous cupboard, and as there are no fireplaces, the actual floor space is as much or more than we are used to.

Turning to the village plans of these schemes and of several designed by Mr. John Nolen. The setting out of the roads, while providing admirable communications, makes the most of the contours, the junctions of the roads and the angle sites are skilfully treated, existing trees are preserved to a large extent and others are planted wherever shade is needed. The majority of the houses are detached and have wide shallow plots, the number to the acre varying from about nine to twelve. The cost of building has increased through the war, but even now these houses cost from 15 to 20 per cent. less than ours.

One pamphlet deals with city slums. Some of the photographs show conditions worse than the worst of Glasgow or Bethnal Green. Mr. Lawson Purdy, writing with a most intimate knowledge of New York, utterly damns the "sky-scraper" as an evil, insanitary thing. America has learned much from our experiments. Mr. Purdy's pamphlet should be studied by those who are inclined to imitate New York's greatest failure.

Some of the so-called model houses are horrible. Badly planned, with worse elevations, obviously

designed, if the word may be used, by well-meaning people whose ignorance is only exceeded by their indifference to the arduous training added to the fine appreciation of good building which alone can produce a home worthy of the name. This is not intended as a criticism of Americans in general, but of that class of reformer who is, unfortunately, fairly common in every country. Cleanliness and good drains are always on the side of beauty. The best in human nature demands much more. This point of view is strongly insisted on by many of the writers under review, and the results they give prove its value.

There are many other interesting topics discussed in these books, and much valuable information will be found in their pages; but enough has been said to show that America is tackling its housing difficulties in a characteristic and generous manner. The results so far are splendid. May the efforts of the National Housing Association continue to be blessed with the success they deserve!

S. B. CAULFIELD [F.]

## REVIEWS.

### OLD LONDON RELICS.

*"Unknown London."* By Walter George Bell. 8s. 6d. net. 80., pp. 246, 16 illustrations and map. [John Lane, The Bodley Head.]

We know Mr. Bell from the important paper read at a General Meeting of the Institute on 4th March 1918 on "The Rebuilding of London after the Great Fire," which introduced a scholarly antiquary and a literary craftsman to the Institute. The title may be criticised as exaggerated and savouring of the journalistic headline. The book deals with a score or so of subjects, but as its items have been selected from collections in the Egyptian rooms at the British Museum and from the Record Office, as well as from the streets and lanes of the City, their connection with London, known or unknown, is but fortuitous. Mr. Bell claims that he has not gone outside the City for matter save twice, to Wapping and Westminster; but he forgets that also the Roman Bath in the Strand and St. Clement Danes are without the City boundaries. It is rather cruel to suggest that the shrine of St. Edward Confessor is as unknown in London as a particular mummy or even the Duke of Suffolk's head.

The eighteen chapters of the book constitute a group of disconnected essays upon historical fragments—architectural, literary and social—mingling the pathos of dim tragedies with the humour of adapted statuary and some charming sketches of domestic life and economy. All are dealt with in style that is attractive, both in its literary ease and informing substance. The matter, though old and crusted, becomes fresh and stimulating in Mr. Bell's hands. The reader is led to unexpected finds in well-known corners of the City, and the guide brings light to each from his wide store of antiquarian knowledge.

\* See the JOURNAL for 24th January.



Vitruvius at the Strand Bath, Herodotus in the British Museum, Foxe at Smithfield, and many less known authorities are explored to illuminate his subjects.

The site of the Mansion House in the time of Charles II. gains interest as we learn that there the Merry Monarch made mockery of the Protector in a transformed Equestrian Statue of Sobiesky trampling upon a Turk—the gift of the Lord Mayor Vyner, whom we remember in Pepys. Among the more vividly interesting sketches is that of 34 Great Tower Street and the wine merchant's business conducted therein down to our day. With this may be coupled the domestic details, compiled in the Guildhall Library, of an unhappy home in Cannon Street of the reign of Edward III. The chapter on the remains of the City Wall in Messrs. Barber's bonded warehouse in Cooper's Row, Trinity Square, has considerable importance: the portion of the wall remaining in the Post Office area in Newgate is noted, but no reference is made to the large portion discovered and destroyed upon the site of the new Old Bailey. In another vein, the chapter on the martyrs of the Smooth-field is masterly.

The book is small, packed with interest to the Londoner, and has an especial claim upon architects from its clearness of archaeological statement, and withal it is so pleasantly written as to be certain of a much wider audience. It has already passed into a second edition. Some of the photographic prints are suggestive, as is the sketch map of the Roman Wall, but these illustrations might be amplified with advantage.

The sympathy and charm of the author cannot be mistaken or overlooked in a review.

BERESFORD PITE [F.]

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem [pp. 151-2].

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR.—Professor Lethaby has twice complimented me for my efforts to elucidate the curiously intricate and purposely mystified history of the greatest of Christian monuments—the Holy Sepulchre Church, Jerusalem. I remember reading in his *Medieval Art* (1904) that the best historical theory on the subject attempted up to that date was my privately printed brochure, reviewed by Rev. A. Headlam in the *Quarterly*, July 1899; he now repeats this encomium in your pages. As this letter, for which I have to thank him, is couched somewhat in the form of an invitation to "Correspondence," you will perhaps permit me the pleasure of replying to some of his remarks.

*Mosaic picture of S. Pudenziana*: My identification of this as a representation of Constantine's buildings, Jerusalem, occurred to me when turning over the leaves of Cav. di Rossi's great folio on the mosaics at Rome. I was struck by the evident error of the famous Cavaliere in supposing it to represent some part of Ancient Rome; but where are the two Columns, the Colosseum, and the features of the great

city usually represented for such a purpose at that early period, even if we suppose the Pantheon in place of the much more probable Holy Sepulchre? On a subsequent visit to Jerusalem I was shown by my friend, M. Khitrovo, a paper in the *Bulletin* of the Russ. Pal. Society by M. Ainalov referring to this mosaic with the same idea in view: this very much confirmed me in my theory.

Professor Lethaby hardly grasps my idea that the apse picture is partly realistic, but chiefly mystical. The Heavenly Jerusalem is represented by Constantine's "New Jerusalem," and Christ occupies the throne of His episcopal representative, whilst the Hebrew and Gentile Churches crown SS. Peter and Paul on either hand. The picture is entirely conventional, yet the scene is laid within an open courtyard answering completely to the early reports on the appearance of the Holy Sepulchre buildings.

*The Cross*: If Professor Lethaby ever visits Cyprus he will see relic-worship which may be as old as the Constantinian era. There, in different parts of the island, minute particles of the "True Cross" are venerated, which are always enclosed in a hole at the meeting of the four arms of a large wooden cross, some six or more feet in height. The cross is sometimes covered with ornamental metalwork, as in the case of the Bologna Cross (see my book, p. 202).

*The Tomb*: Professor Lethaby is hardly consistent; first he agrees with me that the Tomb resembled "Absalom's Pillar," and then he insists it must have been covered with a hemispherical dome. But I am afraid there is no shred of evidence that it was ever covered by a masonry dome in Prof. Lethaby's sense from its origin up to the present day. I ought to have mentioned in my book that gargoyles still stand, or did so until recently, on the modern roof of the actual Tomb to carry off the rain water which fell on it through the ages until the Russians put up the glass skylight in 1870 and closed up the traditional Pantheon-like mode of lighting the interior of the church. That the Tomb was always exposed to the rain bears out the representation on the Trivulzio and other early ivories. I may also mention as a curious fact that certain Eastern Christians do not take off their hats on walking round the Rotunda, as though they considered the Tomb to be still in the open air in spite of the skylight.

*The Façade*: Corinthian capitals referred to vary in size because they have been pared off at the bottom to fit some later building (see Fig. 18).

*The Hemisphere*: Professor Lethaby mixes up the Constantinian design of 330 with the Constantinopolitan type of church of 530. It seems to me improbable that the basilica of the fourth century would be planned with a central cupola. I believe that the oldest basilicas of Rome betray no evidence of such a feature in their original design; nor does the basilica of Bethlehem, which, if not of Constantine's time, is at least very ancient, show any trace of provision for a central dome in spite of its triapsal plan, which in after

ages became such a favourite with Renaissance domical-church builders. I think the crypt of S. Helena must have been reconstructed many times in subsequent ages, and consequently conveys no information on the plan of the basilica.

*Medieval Church:* To anyone familiar with the peculiarities of French Romanesque the carving on the façade of the Crusaders' church will appeal as being amongst the finest specimens of that type of art in existence. As I have pointed out in my book, the building of the church was under the control of French patriarchs who would, of course, influence the style of its design.

I am much obliged to Professor Lethaby for his reference to drawings (unknown to me) in the MS. Room of the British Museum. I will examine them on the next opportunity.

GEO. JEFFERY. F.S.A.

#### Defects in Timber.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—You were good enough to insert in your issue of the 7th a notice asking architects to assist an investigation proposed by the Science Standing Committee and the Natural History Museum on the subject of defects produced in timber by boring insects. My Committee has since received a communication from the Mycological Department of Edinburgh University, asking whether any information is obtainable as to mechanical tests on coniferous timber attacked by the fungus *Ceratostomella pilifera* (provisional designation) giving a bluish-green colour to the wood. Presumably this is the ordinary blue sap so familiar to architects. Though not strictly embraced within the scope of the inquiry referred to, this is a very important matter, and the Science Committee will be grateful for any information which it can pass on to those engaged in this investigation.—Yours, etc.

ALAN E. MUNBY.

*Chairman, Science Committee.*

#### "Dividing the Profession."

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—Sixteen years ago a special commission of a thoroughly representative character was appointed when the Royal Institute of British Architects held a lengthened enquiry before issuing an official report which took the form of a public memorial addressed under seal to all the various authorities and departments, the Borough Councils, Local Government Bodies, Guardians and all concerned in such affairs in regard to the position and duties of officials employed to do work of an architectural nature carried out at the public expense. This document was published in facsimile in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL (December 10th, 1904, pp. 104-5 and pp. 111 *et seq.* gave references) bearing the autographs of the President, Vice-Presidents and others as representatives of the Council, and all the Presidents of the Allied Societies also signed. This authoritative

and definite exposition of the mind of the Institute cannot be treated as a mere "scrap of paper." All loyal members of our society are bound to conform to its conclusions. Individuals not prepared to agree can do one of two things—either resign or take constitutional means to amend the decisions to which their personal exception is taken.

In his letter, printed in the current issue of the JOURNAL, p. 154, Mr. F. R. Hiorns quotes some statesmanlike remarks by the President to the effect that "within the Institute private and official architects are entitled to equal consideration and honour," I agree and have suggested nothing to the contrary, but certainly I must insist that every member is bound to uphold his *alma mater* by fostering it as the guardian of the interests of all the members. When admitted to the roll each candidate willingly undertakes to maintain its authority to the best of his ability.

I suggest that the following quotation from Mr. Hiorns' communication should also be applied to the above remarks and conclusions. He says, "Frank and general acceptance of so sound a principle should do much towards at least uniting together our membership."

Nevertheless no attempt has been made to explain how the establishment of any sort of omnium gatherum of salaried building experts, road surveyors, official architects and borough surveyors founded to further their professional situations can be made reasonably co-operative with Conduit Street, while class interests advanced in this fashion can hardly coincide with the welfare of the Institute as a whole. The fostering of architecture as a fine art is sadly hampered by restrictions of this sort and must be consigned to a subordinate place. In actual practice the political risk thus run will inevitably arise whenever the pre-eminence of our chartered society clashes with so partisan a body, partly comprising a few of our own members and made up by outsiders. The more efficient they are as administrators the more difficult. The capacity and status of the R.I.B.A., in fact, is challenged by the creation of such an exclusive association of officials. Fine phrases about architecture, as set out in their preamble, fail to ameliorate the mundane purpose of this enterprise. To make such an official union strong enough to deal efficiently with powerful official bodies of employers, where financial affairs preponderate, its organisation cannot proceed single-handed and must realise as a *sine qua non* that no distinctions will be admitted as to mere architectural qualifications. No diploma is needed, and in the eyes of the law anyone can claim the name of "Architect." "Jack's as good as his master"!

This correspondence has served its purpose, so far as I am concerned for the moment. Mr. Hiorns says it is a pity it was begun at all, and Mr. Sheppard bewails that it cannot be "pursued with advantage." The subject, however, will crop up again when this official association gets active. The strident attitude exhibited by its representatives who attended the

Institute meeting on 1st December, held after their initial gathering was over, did not augur well for peace in future. Hence my protest, though Mr. Sheppard ends up by saying he "can never hope to bottom" my "incomprehensible reasoning." I did my best to make the real issue clear.

MAURICE B. ADAMS [F.].

*Chiswick, 11th February, 1920.*

## BUSINESS ORGANISATION AMONGST ARCHITECTS.

By ROBERT ATKINSON [F.].

(From the *Journal of the American Institute of Architects*.)

Among the contributory causes of that "architectural inefficiency" which is the subject of so much contemporaneous discussion, perhaps the greatest is the lack of business organisation amongst architects themselves.

It is said that the architect loves to call himself an artist and to cultivate that irresponsibility so dear to the Bohemian, or to shelter himself behind the mask of professional tradition and to cover his defects by the thought that such things are unprofessional—a fly-away artist or soulless dummy, according to temperament, but never, or seldom, a person with a grasp of £ s. d. In other words, a person for whom the average client lives in constant trepidation under the fear of unforeseen expenses.

That these things are true of some architects is scarcely to be denied. How large a proportion they bear, in numbers, to the whole of the practising profession, I do not know, but after an experience at the hands of such a practitioner, one can, therefore, understand the tendency of manufacturing firms to dispense with the architect and to secure a fixed firm estimate for the work from a builder, including plans, or to employ only those few architects whose business ability approaches most closely to the required efficiency, with very little regard for the purely architectural aspect, as it is generally understood. Few architects can hope to compete against such large contracting establishments, with their efficient systems of costing and organisation, and if the same thing is to become general in the architectural world, it will most surely be at the expense of the individuality of the designer and of the separate existence of the individual practitioner, a loss which, from the artistic point of view, will hardly bear thinking about. A business man controls, we will say, the general organisation: he handles great cash accounts, smokes large cigars, entertains largely and advertises extensively; he employs two hundred people—designers, draughtsmen, costing clerks, surveyors, engineers, and clerical staff. he can give a fixed firm estimate for any job, turn out the drawings necessary in twenty-four hours, and, when necessary, undertake contracting work. Each section of his organisation does only its quota of work; the designer passes on the sketches to a draughtsman, the draughtsman to the engineer, the engineer to the sur-

vveyor, and thus each individual is tied to his particular job, cannot become an all-round architect, and cannot hope to establish business on his own account in face of such competition, or provide the cash necessary if he could overcome the other obstacles.

It is the business man who arranges the affair and the artist who provides the oil for the works. The difference between such a firm and the average large contracting firm is difficult to find: the one is called Building Ltd., and the other Architecture Ltd.: that appears to be all.

Limited liability companies for architecture, or something of the sort, are within the bounds of possibility in the very near future, and to counteract such tendencies is surely the aim and hope of all true architects. It goes without saying that a more efficient education in practical and business affairs is an essential element in any reform, and I think some sort of public educational campaign on architectural matters, conceived in a large spirit and free from personal ideas, engineered from a central department for the good of the profession generally, would do a great work in dispelling from the public mind the idea that architecture is a case of the lowest estimate and in awaking public interest generally. Such a campaign would need to be worked through the popular journals and graded to awaken interest progressively. All this, however, leaves the problem of the small professional man with limited resources very much as in pre-War days, and, possibly, by his inability to rise with the times, in worse case than before. It is with the idea of finding a solution to this problem that the following ideas have been penned.

I see no reason why several persons should not group themselves together, as presently expounded, and, by their combined resources properly organised, combat upon their own grounds the greater firms, at the same time preserving that invaluable architectural quality of "*individuality*," so that in the long future each building would be stamped by the character of its designer and its personality be as convincing as works by Brunelleschi or Peruzzi.

The fundamental idea is that as each architect in practice pays from his commission a certain percentage for office and establishment charges, which we will say amounts to one-third of his fees, it is obvious that a reduction of expenses and greater efficiency could be secured by several persons combining and pooling their office organisations: would it not then be of great advantage for a dozen young men, including if you like the greatest divergency of temperament and capabilities, to run in harness for their mutual advantage? The combination might include specialists in designing, town planning, decoration, construction, engineering, surveying, and business.

Each would look after his own clients and pay into the common fund the one-third of his fees which his individual office would cost; there would thus be no question about his not receiving a due share of profits. From this general fund all office expenses would be

paid, rent, cost of materials and cost of drawing office. The drawing office costs would vary according to the size of the job, but as each would be in proportion to the funds paid in, it would equalise itself. The volume of work provided would enable the co-partners to employ an efficient general manager for office work; they would be able to keep fully occupied a consulting engineer and a quantity surveyor, with the added advantage of having always available for consultation in difficult cases their various expert co-partners. Consultations of this sort would be paid for out of general funds, at agreed rates, and co-partners not fully occupied could lend themselves to the general office at salary rates.

Work in which it was necessary for any particular co-partner to co-operate with another would be shared as joint work, and work introduced directly through the executed work of any particular man would remain the property of that co-partner.

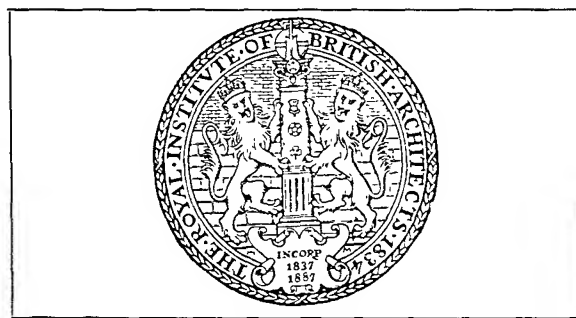
To ensure an adequate contribution to general funds, a minimum payment of £100 per annum might be levied which, representing as it does, on a 5 per cent. basis, jobs costing £2,000, would be within the reach of almost any young architect and would not tend to exclude men just commencing practice. Regular meetings of co-partners to transact business would be held, and, finally, surplus funds would be divided between members in the ratio of their contributions.

It seems to me that some such sort of working agreement, preserving, as it does, to the full, the present independence of the architect, yet giving the advantages of a great organisation in addition, and the chance for every clever man to secure an independent practice with the least possible expenditure and the greatest possible chances of success, would go a long way toward a solution of the problem of efficiency, by reason of the powerful organisation possible after a certain amount of experience in running.

The architect has a tendency to over-emphasise the idealistic attributes of the profession; by so doing he gives the impression of being a dreamer rather than a doer, and so undermines public confidence. Whereas, what the profession needs is more certain or more stable conditions of employment, and, whilst under such a scheme the individual need not be less artistic or less irresponsible, the general organisation at his back would counteract his deficiencies and quite possibly make a success of what would otherwise be a failure in business.

The collective experience gained would permit a much more rapid accumulation of business acumen than is possible by the slow process of a bare living practice, even if each of the joint practices taken separately was of the threadbare order.

To prevent absorption of the co-operative organisation, or its exploitation by single members, it might probably be a good thing to provide that a maximum earning be fixed beyond which point a member would be required to resign and to establish an independent office.



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 21<sup>st</sup> February 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### Mr. Waterhouse's Paper on Architectural Education.

The subject brought before the Institute by Mr. Waterhouse at the meeting last Monday attracted a full attendance of members and of others interested in the future of architectural education in this country. The author delivered the Paper apparently quite extempore, speaking with perfect fluency and without the aid of either print or MS. The Paper, however, was in type, and advance copies had been circulated among likely speakers some days in advance of the meeting. The debate, which was brought to a close by the President at 10.30, was contributed to by Sir L. Ankerst Selby Bigge, K.C.B., Permanent Secretary of the Board of Education, who moved the vote of thanks; Mr. W. R. Davies, C.B., Principal Assistant Secretary of the Technological Branch of the Board, who seconded the motion; Professor Beresford Pite [F.] (Royal College of Art), Professor C. H. Reilly [F.] (Liverpool University), Professor A. E. Richardson [F.] (London University), Professor A. C. Dickie [F.] (Manchester University), Mr. Maurice Webb, D.S.O. [F.] (President of the Architectural Association), Mr. Lewis Solomon [F.] (Vice-President of the Board of Architectural Education), Mr. Alan E. Munby [F.] (Hon. Examiner in Architecture), Mr. Lionel E. Budden [A.] (Professor Reilly's colleague at Liverpool University), and Dr. Elliot Smith, a member of the General Medical Council of several years' standing. The last-named made a most helpful contribution to the discussion, dealing in his remarks with the system of medical teaching and examination in this country, and with the relations of the various medical schools with the great professional bodies, the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. The debate had to be closed owing to the lateness of the hour, not from any lack of speakers to continue it. The discussion will be reported verbatim in the next issue.

### War Service Candidates for Associateship: Exemption from Final Examination: Special Conference.

A Conference organised by the Council to discuss the question of exemption of war service candidates from the Final Examination was held at the Institute on the 19th January. The President, Mr. John W.

Simpson, was in the chair, supported by the four Vice-Presidents and the Hon. Secretary.

Present, representing Allied Societies, were Messrs. Lewis F. Tonar [*Licentiate*] (Devon and Exeter Society), T. R. Milburn [*F.*] (Northern Architectural Association), L. Kitchen [*F.*] (President, York and East Yorkshire Society), R. Savage [*F.*] (Vice-President, Birmingham Architectural Association), T. Tahesin Rees [*F.*] (President, Liverpool Architectural Society), J. R. Wigfull [*A.*] (Sheffield Architectural Society), Sydney Tugwell [*F.*] (Hants and Isle of Wight Association), S. S. Reay [*F.*] (Bristol Society of Architects), Chas. Kempson [*F.*] (Leicester Society of Architects), Ivor J. Jones [*A.*] (South Wales Institute of Architects), Arthur Clyne [*F.*] (Aberdeen Society of Architects), John Keppie [*F.*] (Glasgow Institute of Architects), L. O'Callaghan (R. Inst. of Architects of Ireland). There were also present Messrs. Maurice E. Webb [*F.*] (President, Architectural Association, London), F. E. Pearce Edwards [*F.*] (Sheffield), Arnold Thornely [*F.*] (Liverpool), W. E. Riley [*F.*] (London), W. P. Rylatt [*A.*] (Derbyshire), C. B. Flockton [*F.*] (Sheffield), and Ian MacAlister, secretary.

The President read the following letter, which had been addressed to those invited to attend:—

DEAR SIR.—The Council of the Royal Institute have decided to hold a Conference on the question of the election of "War service candidates" and their exemption from the Final Examination, which has recently been the subject of some controversy. In addition to several representatives of the Council and to several members who have opposed the Council's action, it is desired to have a representative of each of the Allied Societies at the Conference. I shall be very glad if you will kindly ask your Council—or the President, if your Council will not be meeting shortly—to appoint a representative of your Society to attend the Conference which will take place at the Institute on Monday, 19th January, at 3.30 p.m.—Faithfully yours, IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

The question having been exhaustively discussed and various solutions suggested, it was finally resolved by a unanimous vote to make the following recommendations to the Council:—

(1) That all duly qualified war service candidates who passed, or were exempted from passing, the Intermediate Examination in and after the year 1910, should be put forward for election at the earliest possible date.

(2) That the cases of all duly qualified war service candidates who passed, or were exempted from passing the Intermediate Examination before the year 1910, and whose applications were received prior to 17th June, 1919, should be the subject of careful consideration by the Board of Architectural Education and the Council of the Royal Institute.

(3) That if, in the case of any of the candidates mentioned in (2), the Council find that there are special reasons, such as disability caused by the war, undoubted and serious interruption of studies, or special hardship, they should prepare a list of such candidates, with full particulars of their war services, and of the special reasons above mentioned, and forward it to the Councils of the Allied Societies, and invite these Councils to express their opinion upon the list.

(4) That, having received the opinions of the Allied Societies' Councils upon the above-mentioned list and given them due consideration, the Royal Institute Council should proceed to prepare a final list of pre-1910 candidates whom they consider deserving of

special consideration, and put these candidates forward for election with an asterisk against their names, and a note to the effect that these candidates have been the subject of special consideration by the Council, and are put forward as special cases.

(5) That after the names have been published, and before the election, the Royal Institute Council should issue to all members a circular explaining the procedure that has been adopted with the war service candidates and detailing the resolutions passed at this Conference, and giving the names of the members of the Conference which passed these resolutions.

The foregoing report having been considered by the Council on 2nd February, and adopted by a unanimous vote, the procedure recommended will be carried out in due course.

#### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

The following further names missing from the original list [see JOURNAL for 10th January] have been kindly supplied by members and others:—

CROSTHWAITE, WILLIAM JAMES [*Student*]. Killed in action.

FULTON, ANDREW WILFRID [*Student*, 1906]. Killed in action.

PRESTON, WILLIAM CARTER [*Student*]. Killed in action.

NORRIS, LESLIE, 2nd Lieut., R.E. [*Student*]. Killed in action. March, 1917.

SUTHERLAND, GEORGE ANGUS, Capt., Seaforth Highlanders [*Licentiate*]. Killed in action, 1918.

WILLIAMS, STANLEY H., Lieut., 6th Wiltshires [*Associate*]. Died of wounds.

#### War Honours.

*Erratum*.—JOURNAL, 7th Feb., p. 156: For Beswick, Alfred Edward, read BESWICK, WILLIAM [*A.*].

#### An Operative Building Guild Scheme.

The National Federation of Building Trade Operatives is issuing reprints of two articles from *The Manchester Guardian* on the Building Guild Committee of trade unionists at Manchester which is offering to build for the Corporation 2,000 houses. The Committee claim to have a monopoly of the local labour supplies and to be able, therefore, to build the houses much more expeditiously than either private or municipal enterprise could do. All the building trade unions are represented on and pledged to support the Committee. Should the project materialise, the Building Guild would have to organise at short notice a wholly new system of democratic works control. They would also have to take over the whole of the financial and commercial business which is usually done by private employers. Presenting the practical side of the problem, *The Manchester Guardian* says:—

The men have a monopoly of their labour power, and seek to apply it equally to their own advantage and to the public good. Within a measurable period of time there are probably 50,000 houses in Manchester to be built or rebuilt. There is an immediate and present demand for 20,000. The bricklayers, in co-operation with the other organised workers in the building industry, claim that they

can build quicker and better under conditions free from profiteering. It is their contention that under their own democratic control they will work in an atmosphere of goodwill and sane discipline that will induce good and speedy workmanship.

The ultimate aim is to form a National Building Guild. At present the membership of the Building Guild Committee is to be confined to the smallest number consistent with representation upon it of all the trades concerned. Probably for Manchester ten or a dozen would suffice. As the movement extends to other towns and districts similar committees would be formed, but, it is hoped, linked up with the parent body, an administration common to all being desirable if not necessary. On this committee, in addition to the trade representatives, would sit one representative from the administration, and one from the technical, architectural, and survey.

In regard to the technical services says *The Manchester Guardian* steps have already been taken to secure the best talent. No contractor can obtain better men than those already approached by the Guild Committee.

It is in the labour department that we shall find the widest divergence from existing practice. Here democratic control must prevail from the Chief Director down to the most obscure job. It is specifically set out in the original memorandum, to be subsequently embodied in the formal document constituting the Committee, that the direction and discipline of the whole labour force shall be confined to men in good trade union standing. Whether the Committee shall appoint the foremen, or whether they shall be chosen by their colleagues on the site, is of no great consequence: the important thing is that the work shall proceed with the assent and goodwill of the workers concerned.

As for discipline, the trade union officials have no kind of fear. They are satisfied that it will be superior in every way to the discipline imposed from above, to which the men give only half-hearted and sullen obedience. The Committee have already decided upon the terms of employment. They are just and generous, but their disclosure at the present juncture, it is held by those responsible, would be premature and undesirable.

As regards preparations for the future National Guild, the main points are briefly summarised in *The Manchester Guardian* as follows:—

1. All plant and material and other tangible property shall be vested in three trustees

2. After two years, if the building industry as a whole shall decide to form a National Guild, but provided such National Guild shall include all and every grade in the industry, the trustees shall transfer all property vested in them to the properly constituted Guild authority. All disputes shall be referred to the Chairman for the time being of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Unions Congress, or his nominee, and the Minister of Labour or his nominee.

But why, it may be asked, drag in the Minister of Labour? The answer is that the State is directly interested. It is sound Guild doctrine that the State shall own all material and assets, holding them in trust both for the community and the Guilds. The peculiar property of the National Guild is the organised monopoly of its own labour power. Property is rightly vested in the State; control with the Guilds. This is the fundamental difference between the National Guildsman and the Syndicalist.

3. If after two years a National Building Guild shall be constituted, the Building Guild Committee shall transfer to it all existing contracts, and either be dissolved or absorbed into the national organisation.

#### "Luxury" Building: The Appeal Tribunal.

The appeal tribunal set up in connection with the powers given to local authorities to prohibit building operations which interfere with the provision of dwelling accommodation has been constituted by the Minister of Health as follows:—Mr. E. B. Charles, C.B., K.C., Chairman; Sir J. S. Harmood-Banner, M.P.; Mr. James Storrs, J.P., F.I.O.B., Chairman of the Industrial Council for the Building Industry; Councillor R. Wilson, J.P., Chairman of the Resettlement Committee of the Industrial Council; Sir John Wormald, K.B.E.

Mr. Storrs and Councillor Wilson, it is stated, were nominated by the Industrial Council for the Building Industry, at Dr. Addison's request, as representatives of employers and employees respectively.

The tribunal will sit at the offices of the Ministry of Health, and meetings will be held in the afternoons after 4 p.m. Communications should be addressed to:—The Clerk to the Appeal Tribunal (Regulation of Building), Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1.

The Ministry of Health point out that before entering into contracts, or beginning to build, promoters of new construction should communicate with their local authority.

#### Housing: Progress of the State Schemes.

The Minister of Health, Dr. Addison, speaking in the House of Commons on the 17th inst., on a motion that "the House viewed with apprehension the slow rate of progress in the building of houses under the Housing and Town Planning Act," said that he had adopted the policy of devolving the powers of the Ministry of Health more and more, and of giving greater responsibility to the Housing Commission, which had now within a very wide limit complete authority in regard to sites, house-plans, lay-out plans and tenders up to a very considerable amount without reference to headquarters. Better progress had been made since the passing of the Act of last Session, but much of it was the result of the spade-work of last year. So far as the Ministry of Health was concerned, there was no doubt that the acceptance of tenders for 200,000 houses for this year's programme would be made good. But there remained the questions of paying for them and the building of them. When the House separated last year they had approved plans for 63,000 houses. The number was now 107,000. During all the months of last year they had only got 16,900 houses into the accepted tender stage. In the last seven weeks they had passed into the accepted tender stage twice as many houses as they had done in the previous eleven months. The reason was that the plans were now coming to the final stage. During the last fortnight they had accepted tenders for more than 18,000 houses, and the number was rapidly increasing. But they had ever before them the difficulties of cost and shortage of labour. Since the Amending Act came into operation they had had new proposals from 30 public utility societies for 4,000 additional houses. As to the subsidy, although the Act became law only on 31st December, they managed by great effort to get out the conditions on 9th January. They were arranging with a number of banks that the presentation of the certificate would enable an advance to be made to the builder. A return which he had asked for from the local



authorities showed that during the first fortnight of January 707 houses had been sanctioned in connexion with the subsidy, and 575 plans had been lodged. That return only related to half the authorities, so that practically there were 1,200 houses in the first fortnight, an encouraging start. The main difficulty was the cost. The quantity of materials would, he felt certain, be forthcoming, but he proposed to issue in a few days a statement of the cost of different materials, showing their progressive rise, and it was an appalling statement. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food (Mr. McCurdy) was going into the question for him on behalf of the Board of Trade. With regard to labour, that had been a subject of negotiations since last June. There was a shortage of bricklayers alone of at least 16,000 to build the houses required this year if there was not a single bricklayer for any other job. That was a ghastly shortage, and every expedient must be brought in to try and help it. He proposed to place the whole case with the facts and figures before the Trades Union Congress. He was asking to be allowed to go, and he hoped the Leader of the Labour Party would see he was allowed to go. Anybody who by profiteering or in regard to materials or labour increased the inherent difficulties of the position was acting as an enemy of the Commonwealth.

#### Delay in Housing Schemes.

The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects desire to call the attention of members of the Royal Institute and the Allied Societies to the vital importance, in the public interest, of avoiding delay in the preparation and execution of housing schemes with which they may have been entrusted. The Council are aware that the delays which have taken place hitherto are in the main due to causes beyond the control of the architects concerned, who have done their utmost to press on this great national work. Nevertheless, they trust that all architects engaged upon housing schemes will continue to devote the best of their skill and energy to the task, and will, as far as possible, give it priority over their other professional work.

#### Economies in Planning and in the Employment of New Materials.

Opportunity will be taken as space permits to publish in these columns, either in full or summarised, some of the Papers read at the R.I.B.A. Conference held at the *Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia on the 4th, 5th, and 6th February. The programme appeared in the last issue, following Dr. Addison's address.

Mr. W. A. Harvey [F.] dealt in his Paper, read on the second day, with the subject of 'Economies in Planning and in the Employment of New Materials.'

To-day, he said, we are almost a nation of housing experts, and it is important that the orgy of amateur energy be guided into producing the vast number of houses required. The great point to insist upon is that only by careful standardisation can the enormous and urgent amount of necessary building be speedily accomplished; and there is nothing in the principle of standardisation incompatible with beauty and comeliness. On the assumption that five

hundred houses are to be built on a site, the problem is to erect a proportion of types A, B, and B4, with careful regard to the locality, its special conditions, and possible future development; plans must be prepared providing for north and south aspects, the end and intermediate houses of each type, allowing for necessary variants such as bays, gables, porches, etc. This involves a dozen different standardised plans, and standardisation is the key to the problem, enabling the work to be done well and at a minimum cost. The cottages will depend for attraction not so much upon craft-manship as upon meeting the needs of their occupiers, and on excellence of design. This will avoid an ugly display of foibles and idiosyncrasies, and result in a pleasing and thoughtfully composed collection of groups and similar units, each contributing to a composite whole, restful and attractive. Standardisation seeks to achieve beauty, not ugliness: an article produced from a pattern need not be tawdry nor commonplace. On the other hand, because a house is erected at the lowest possible cost it is not necessarily the most economical. On such a basis there would only be jerry-building; the true test of economy is the lasting qualities of the building. It is necessary to include the probable cost of repairs during a period of years, and the worth of the cottage at the end of the period. Building at too cheap a cost is to solve one problem by creating another. Present building costs are too high to run such risks. Yet in the necessity to build quickly, cheaply, and by standardisation, the rival claims of various methods and materials should receive close and expert investigation, and be subjected to practical tests. Even though building cannot await the result of long technical enquiries a great deal can be done. Experimental data should be obtained under conditions that render comparisons reliable and instructive, and for this reason experimental houses should be erected by the Government, doing on a large scale what was done at Bourneville. At that place £7,000 was provided for experimental purposes, for investigation to ascertain the cheapest and most suitable medium for the district.

Greatest economy is to be effected in the design of houses. Roofs must be simple, and without unnecessary complications. Chimneys should be grouped together, diminishing trimmings and flashings, which are always costly items. Generally, windows should run uninterruptedly, and not allowed to complicate the spouting and roofing by breaking through the roof. Compactness and regularity should be aimed at, the wall lines set at right angles, and as long and unbroken as possible. In all features standardisation will help economy—in windows, doors, stairs, skirtings, etc. All planning should be to avoid waste, without sacrificing amenities.

The broad-fronted house will be the type most favoured in future designs, and it is both comely and convenient. It affords superior lighting and ventilation, especially in living and work rooms, staircase and larder. Greater width allows considerable latitude of choice in internal planning, with facilities for more conveniently arranged rooms, and special regard to the right aspect. The living room and one bedroom can be through rooms with windows at each end, thus making bright, cheerful, easily ventilated rooms, suitable for any aspect. The relative positions of windows and doors require careful consideration, as the arrangement and shape may add considerably to their usefulness. Opening doors and passage should be kept away from fireplaces and windows: the comfort of a living room depends on having as few doors as possible, kept to one wall or corner.

The next important problem is the position and fitting of



the bathroom; it ought to be on the first floor, with hot-water supply from a boiler at the back of the range or fireplace. By the adoption of an up-to-date general hot-water system an economy can be effected for £10 or £15 per house. From the boiler it would be possible to take a flow and return pipe into a drying closet in the recess adjoining the kitchen fire.

The old-fashioned kitchen range, too, must go; it is wasteful in consumption and in labour, and gives but an indifferent result. If the ideal range has not yet been produced, still great steps have been taken towards it.

Mr. Harvey proceeded to consider the relative merits of various materials: he said that during the last five years he had built concrete houses of reinforced slabs and hollow blocks. Both methods had proved satisfactory as to structure and the comfort and soundness of the house, but the cost had not been appreciably less than brick, even where the aggregate was readily available. As for wood, Mr. Harvey thought it was unsuitable for urban areas, and the cost of maintenance would be considerable. Assuming the cost of the wooden houses to be £30 less, the so-called economy loses its attractiveness and force when set beside the comparatively short life of the building, and the cost of maintenance is excessive. The requirements of health and sanitation would involve also additional cost.

Pisé de terre opens up possibilities of blending some of the best traditions of the past with the results of modern experience. In the hands of sympathetic men with an affectionate regard for the amenities of the picturesque old English villages, pisé de terre might be used to improve upon the work of other days, and whilst producing tastefulness and charm prove at the same time a practical method of solving the housing question in the countryside. It is, moreover, clear on the evidence that in many localities the materials are readily available for the erection of such premises. Stability is assured with suitable local materials, and the high cost of carriage is saved.

In conclusion, Mr. Harvey emphasised the necessity for standardisation being kept to a high standard, since form bad in its conception becomes unsupportable when continually repeated. Coarse sash bars, bizarre fanlights, and toyshop porches all combine to prostrate the spirit, when standardisation is of a bad model, although it costs no more to have good ones. The standardisation of fine models and high quality is the surest method both to build speedily and with economy to-day, and to prevent the houses now erected from lapsing into slums.

#### The President and M. Deschanel.

An exchange of compliments took place between the President and his illustrious fellow-member of the Institut de France, M. Paul Deschanel, on the occasion of the election of the latter as President of the French Republic.

#### Scholarships for Architectural Studentships: The R.I.B.A. Intermediate.

The following are among the Temporary Regulations for Scholarships and other Awards in Art recently published by the Board of Education:—

1. If there are candidates of sufficient merit, the following awards tenable at the Royal College of Art are made annually to students who have not previously studied at the College:—(a) 10 Royal Exhibitions; (b) 6 National Scholarships; and (c) not less than 15 Free Studentships.
2. (a) A Royal Exhibition or a National Scholarship en-

titles the holder to an allowance of £60 a year for three years and to free admission to study in a Diploma Course at the Royal College of Art in accordance with the provisions of the College Prospectus. (b) The amount of the above-mentioned allowance may for the present be augmented in any cases in which the Board see fit by a bonus of not more than 50 per cent.

3. A Free Studentship entitles the holder to free admission for two years to the lectures and instruction in one of the main Schools of the Royal College of Art, *i.e.*, *Architecture*, *Sculpture*, *Decorative Painting*, *Design*, with such supplementary instruction as may be approved for the student.

4. A Royal Exhibitioner or National Scholar is allowed railway fare (third-class) between his home and London for one journey to and fro each session. Third-class railway fare is allowed by the Board for one journey to London by a Free Student on taking up the Free Studentship.

5. If there are candidates of sufficient merit, 24 Local Scholarships tenable at Schools of Art recognised by the Board are awarded annually.

6. A Local Scholarship is tenable for three years, with an allowance of £20 a year at any School of Art recognised by the Board, subject to certain conditions.

7. Royal College of Art Entrance Scholarships and Local Scholarships are awarded upon the results of the Board's Examinations in Drawing, Painting, Modelling, Pictorial Design, and Industrial Design, or, in the case of candidates in Architecture, upon those of the *Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A.*

8. Candidates, if eligible to take the examination, may present themselves for examination either in Drawing, or in Painting, or in Modelling, or in Pictorial Design, or in Industrial Design, or in *Architecture*, and at least one Royal Exhibition, one National Scholarship, one Free Studentship, and one Local Scholarship will be awarded in each of these six subjects. . . . Candidates in *Architecture* must take Architectural Design as their optional subject in the *Intermediate Examination of the Royal Institute*.

Candidates proposing to compete at the Board's Art Examinations for one of the above Awards must apply for admission to the Examination upon the prescribed Form, which should be duly completed and returned not later than the 1st March, accompanied by the prescribed fee of 10s. This fee must also be paid to the Board of Education by candidates taking the *Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A.* solely for the purpose of competing for one of the Board's Awards. Candidates taking the *Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A.*, partly for the purpose of competing for one of the Board's Awards, and partly for the purpose of professional registration, will pay to the Institute such fees as may be required by the Institute.

Copies of the Regulations [Cond. 539] are to be obtained at H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d.

#### The Decimal Coinage and Metric System.

The Decimal Association, in their annual report, state that the out-standing event of the year is the establishment of the *Decimal Educator*, a journal devoted to the advocacy of Decimal Coinage and the Metric System. On the whole, the trend of public opinion, official and otherwise, seems to be gradually turning in favour of the reforms for which the Association is working. Canvassed on the question of decimal coinage, 44 replies in favour were received from the House of Lords, 1 against; 80 from the House of Commons, 1 against; 38 from Trade Unions, 0 against; 21 from Chambers of Commerce, 0 against. Equally favourable were the replies as to the use of the Metric System of Weights and Measures in all matters of sale and contract. The Institute is represented on the Executive Committee of the Association by Mr. H. D. Seales Wood [F.].

## The late John Lowe.

The death is announced of Mr. John Lowe, a Fellow of the Institute from 1873 to 1885. "H. B.," in *The Manchester City News* of the 7th February, gives the following particulars of his career:—

By the death of Mr. John Lowe a notable link with old times disappears. Born in January, 1828, in the reign of George IV., he died in January, 1920, within four days of his ninety-second birthday. Born two years before the first railway was opened, he lived to see aeroplanes a recognised means of transit. John Lowe, Architect (for thus he prided in styling himself), was born in Chorlton-upon-Medlock, and save for a short period in early professional life he lived and worked in his native Manchester. After serving his articles in this city, the late Alfred Waterhouse being his fellow-pupil, Mr. Lowe became a member (and afterwards a Fellow) of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and practised in Norwich for a short time, returning to Manchester to take over the practice of Mr. Richard Lane in Chapel Walks. There Mr. Lowe remained for some years until he removed to Mansfield Chambers, St. Ann's Square.

Early in the 'sixties the rebuilding of the old Manchester Exchange was contemplated, and, in view of the present extension of the Royal Exchange, it may be of interest to call to mind the great interest aroused throughout the architectural profession in the earlier building. No fewer than fifty-three architects from all parts of the country competed for the work, in the alternative hope that they would at least obtain one of the three premiums offered. The drawings were on view in the Exhibition Room of the Old Exchange, and were inspected by more than 8,000 persons. The first and second premiums were awarded to Messrs. Mills and Murgatroyd, of this city, and the third premium of one hundred guineas to Mr. John Lowe, whose design was submitted under the motto, "*Mens conscia recti*." All the premiated designs were in the Italian style, but a Gothic design, submitted by Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, found many admirers, and was secured from him by the promoters of a rival scheme intended to be located elsewhere.

Mr. John Lowe was a thoroughly sound and practical architect, and the mainstay of his successful practice was in churches, schools, and parsonage houses, many of which are to be seen in and around Manchester. One of his most complete works is the handsome church of St. James's, Collyhurst, which was the gift of the late Charles Patrick Stewart, partner of the old firm of Sharp, Stewart and Co., and afterwards chairman of that company. The story of that gift is worth telling. Mr. Stewart was called on by a leading Manchester gentleman and asked to contribute to a new church much needed in Collyhurst. Mr. Stewart's reply was, "I will give no subscription at all: I will build it myself." Another fine church is the Albert Memorial; another St. James's, Moss Side, whilst outside Manchester the old octagon church of St. George at Stalybridge, as well as many others, had Mr. Lowe as architect.

Mr. Lowe never soared into the troublous regions of æsthetic architecture. He was eminently matter-of-fact and practical. It was said that his estimates were invariably reliable: that his work was thoroughly sound. He was always ready to study the views of his clients, and, if possible, meet their wishes. His early motto, "*Mens conscia recti*," was the motto of his professional life.

In private life Mr. Lowe was a warm-hearted, generous friend, always to be depended on. Until within a fortnight of his death he took keen interest in all that went on, and would describe in close detail innumerable interesting incidents connected with life two generations ago. "Living" to the very last, writing excellent letters, reading, seeing old friends, but a few short days of pain were passed through before the call came, and, *mens conscia recti*, John Lowe, Architect, a worthy son of Manchester, passed to his well-earned rest.

H. B.

## Royal Academy Exhibition May 3–Aug. 7.

All works intended for the annual exhibition of the Royal Academy must be punctually sent there on one of the days fixed for their reception. These days this year will be:—

Water colours, pastels, miniatures, black-and-white drawings, engravings, and architectural drawings, Friday, 26th March; oil paintings, Saturday, 27th March, and Monday, 29th March; sculpture, Tuesday, 30th March.

No work will under any circumstances be received before or after these specified dates.

All works must be delivered at the Burlington Gardens entrance. None will be received at Piccadilly entrance.

Hours for the reception of works, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

All works sent from the country or from abroad must be consigned to an agent in London for delivery at the Academy, unpacked on one of the appointed days. Account should be taken of the present difficulties of transit. No works in cases will be received: nor will the expenses of carriage be defrayed by the Academy. The attention of foreign artists and of English artists residing in the country and abroad is specially called to this regulation.

No photographing or copying of works will be permitted on the premises of the Royal Academy.

All the works sent by each artist must be entered on a printed form duly filled in with the name (Christian and surname in full, signed by the artist) and address of the artist, the titles and description of the works as they are to be inserted in the catalogue, and the price, if it is desired to place them on sale. These forms must be sent under cover addressed to "The Secretary." No advertisement, unnecessary quotation, or narrative can be admitted.

At the back of each frame must be written the name and address of the artist, with the title or description of the picture, and the number (if there be more than one) to which it refers in his or her list. This information must also be repeated with great distinctness and accuracy on a label securely attached by a string to the top of each frame, and made to hang over in front, as also to each piece of sculpture.

It is necessary that these regulations, more especially the last, should be strictly complied with, in order to avoid delay and inconvenience, as well as inaccuracy in the catalogue.

The forms and labels can be procured (during the month of March only) from the Academy. Applications for them made by letter must be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope for their enclosure.

No artist is allowed to send or exhibit more than *three* different works.

Each picture or drawing must be in a separate frame, or if a series of drawings from one story be at any time admitted in the same frame, they must be enumerated as distinct pieces. A case of sculptured gems will be considered as one work, provided the size of the case does not exceed 6 inches by 5 inches; and a case of metals or plaques, each of which is not more than 7 inches in its widest dimensions, will be considered as one work, provided the size of the case does not exceed 3 feet by 4 feet. Miniatures must be in separate frames, uncased, and enumerated as distinct pieces.

All pictures and drawings must be in gilt frames. Miniatures in frames set with jewels are inadmissible. Oil pictures must not be sent in under glass, but any roll picture not more than 30 square feet superficial measurement obtaining a place on the line may have a glass put over it if so desired on an appointed day before the opening of the exhibition, of which due notice will be given. Excessive breadth in frames or margins, as well as projecting mouldings, may prevent pictures and drawings obtaining the situation they otherwise merit. The frames of engravings and of works in black-and-white must not exceed 1 inch in breadth. Oval frames should be avoided, as they are difficult of arrangement. Reliefs should be framed.

Small photographs of architecture and architectural sculpture not exceeding "half-plate" size will be admitted,

but only in connection with working drawings and included in the same frame. Good geometrical drawings of moderate size are desirable. Architectural drawings which are the work of an artist other than the designer must have the name of the draughtsman clearly inscribed on the mount, but the draughtsman's name will not be included in the catalogue.

No works which have been already publicly exhibited in London, or which have not been executed within the preceding ten years; no copies of any kind (excepting paintings in enamel, and impressions from unpublished medals, in which case the name of the original designer must be specified); no mere transcripts of the objects of natural history; no realistic models of ships or of other inanimate objects, except architectural models of buildings; no vignette portraits in oil; and no engravings or etchings that have been published six months, can be received.

#### British School at Rome: Students' Work at the Grafton Galleries.

The work accomplished by the British Prix de Rome and Jarvis Students during the tenure of their Studentships is now on view at the Grafton Galleries from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The Exhibition closes on Saturday, 28th February.

#### Books Received.

- W. Straus's Cathedral and its Architect. By Winifred de L'Hôpital. With an Introduction by Prof. W. R. Lethaby [F.R.S.]. With 160 illustrations. In 2 vols. 40. Lond. £2 3s. net. [Hutchinson & Co. Paternoster Row.]
- Foundations for Machinery. By Prof. Henry Adams, M.Inst.C.E., M.I.Mech.E. With 60 illustrations and 9 tables. 5s. Lond. 1919. 3s. net, postage 3d extra. [Technical Publishing Company Ltd., 1 Gough Square, E.C.4.]
- Structural Steelwork, relating principally to the Construction of Steel-framed Buildings. By Ernest G. Beck, Wh Eng., Assoc. M.Inst.C.E. 80. Lond. 1920. 21s. net. [Longmans, Green & Co., 39, Paternoster Row.]
- Official Volume of Proceedings of the First New Zealand Town Planning Conference and Exhibition, Wellington, May 1919. 200 pp. text and numerous illustrations.
- Victoria and Albert Museum. Review of the Principal Acquisitions during the year 1918. Illustrated. 40. Lond. 1919. 3s. 6d. net. His Majesty's Stationery Office.
- The Daily Mail Ideal Labour-Saving Home. La. 40. 1920. 5s. net. [Associated Newspapers, Ltd., Cannon Row, Cannon Street E.C.]

### MINUTES. VIII.

At the Eighth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 16th February 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 46 Fellows (including 17 members of the Council), 32 Associates (including 2 members of the Council, 10 Licentiates, and numerous visitors—the Minutes of the Meeting held 2nd February, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of Ewen Harper, *Fellow*, elected 1907; Stanley Hurst Williams, *Associate*, elected 1913; Frederick George Coward, *Associate*, elected 1881; Alfred Fowler Gutteridge, *Licentiate*; John Day, *Licentiate*; and Jorge Henry Krug (Brazil), Hon. Corresponding Member, elected 1919.

Mr. Frank Reginald Gould Wills, *Fellow*, attending for the first time since his election, was formally admitted by the President.

Mr. Paul Waterhouse, F.S.A. [F.], having read a Paper on THE FUTURE OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION, a discussion ensued, and on the motion of Sir L. Amherst Selby Bigge, K.C.B., Permanent Secretary of the Board of Education, seconded by Mr. W. R. Davies, C.B., Principal Assist. Secretary of the Technological Branch, Board of Education, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Waterhouse by acclamation, and was briefly responded to.

The proceedings closed, and the Meeting separated at 10.30 p.m.

### COMPETITIONS.

#### Skipton War Memorial Competition.

Members and Licentiates of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above competition because the conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

By Order of the Council,

IAN MACALISTER,

18th February, 1920.

Secretary R.I.B.A.

#### Chatham Housing Lay-out Competition.

The President has appointed Mr. E. Guy Dawber, Vice-President, as assessor in the Chatham Housing Lay-out Competition.

### NOTICES.

Business Meeting, 1st March: Royal Gold Medal: Elections: Motion by Mr. Perks.

THE NINTH GENERAL MEETING (Business) of the Session 1919-20 will be held Monday, 1st March 1920, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held 16th February and the Special General Meeting held 23rd February.

To announce the Council's Nomination for the Royal Gold Medal.

To proceed with the election of the candidates for membership—10 as Fellows and 73 as Associates—whose names and qualifications are published in the JOURNAL for 10th January and, with the names of their proposers, in the JOURNAL for 7th February.

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS, F.S.A. [F.], to move, in accordance with notice, the following Resolution:—

That in the opinion of this Meeting no member should be nominated by the Council for re-election unless he has attended at least half of the Council Meetings—this rule not to apply in exceptional cases, which should be explained in the JOURNAL.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMAN.—First-class Assistant required, Birmingham area, having a good all-round experience, including surveying and levelling, and a thorough knowledge of Factory Construction. Must be good draughtsman. Full particulars and salary required to D.R.C., c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street.

AN ASSOCIATE, restarting in practice, having a large experience in factory and domestic work, is prepared to assist other architects in his own office.—Address, "H. G.", c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

ARCHITECT (A.R.I.B.A.), energetic and capable, with many years' varied experience, including quantities, and who has carried out large and important work, desires Partnership in an office with good prospects, or appointment as Chief Assistant with a view to Partnership.—Address Box 4220, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

ARCHITECT, with good practice in Devonshire, wishes to sell same, or to take a partner and ultimately retire (and if not health being the reason).—Write "Devon," c/o Messrs. Taylor & Son, 25, Newman Street, Oxford Street, W.1.

REQUIRED, unmarried Architectural Assistant for Singapore, commencing salary £500. Two years' agreement. Excellent prospects. Passage paid.—Apply by letter to Mr. S. H. Evans, 59, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.



## THE FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH ARCHITECTURE.

By H. HEATHCOTE STATHAM [F.].

SOME of the oldest among us can still remember the glamour which hung around us in the days of faith in the Gothic revival, especially as it affected the designing and building of churches ; the days when *donec templum refecimus* was the watchword of ardent ecclesiological souls, and Pugin, Scott and Street were hallowed names, successively leaders in the van of the ecclesiological reform which was to symbolise in the material building the reawakened spirituality of the English Church. What a thing it was to an architect to be young in those days : how one loved the hallowed forms of pointed arch, tracery design, pinnaced buttress : how one accepted enthusiastically all the inspired rhetoric (much of it fallacious) of the *Seven Lamps* : how one pored over the splendid illustrated publications of the period—Sharpe's *Parallels*, and Bowman and Crowther's *Churches of the Middle Ages*, and others : how one reverently sketched Gothic detail everywhere ; and how thoroughly one believed in it all ! Yes, it was good to be young then.

And now the magic has faded out of it, and one can realise that it was an intellectual mistake, an endeavour to re-create artificially the architectural expression of a past age, an age of other conditions of life than ours. There are distinctions to be made, no doubt. It was not all of it quasi-mechanical copyism ; there were those who could put their own individuality, more or less, into a Gothic Revival church. Butterfield was one ; All Saints', Margaret Street, is still interesting. And Pugin, the earliest pioneer, was a man of genius, though his admission of cheap decorative detail into his churches evoked the gentle satire of Bishop Blougram :—

It's different preaching in basilicas  
From doing duty in some masterpiece  
Like this of brother Pugin's, bless his heart !  
I doubt if they're half baked, those chalk rosettes,  
Giphers and stucco-twiddling everywhere.

But Pugin, despite the plaster garnish, had a remarkable power of producing a fine interior effect in a comparatively small church. You may come now and then, in the back streets of some great manufacturing town, on a comparatively small and unpretentious church exterior, and enter it to find an effect of soaring height which takes you by surprise :—

All without is mean and small,  
All within is vast and tall—

the result of Pugin's true architectural genius, which knew how to manipulate the lines of an interior so as to convey the idea of height independently of the bare facts of mensuration. The "chalk rosettes" possibly were still in evidence : Pugin came too early in the movement to have learned the lesson which our later Revival architects by slow degrees apprehended, that the real genius of Gothic architecture lies in structure and mass and the effective profiling of mouldings, and not in luxuriance of carved decoration. Thus the chronological course of Revival Gothic is, curiously, in the reverse order to that of ancient Gothic ; its efforts commence in the spirit of the fifteenth century, and gradually go back to that of the thirteenth, or even occasionally of the twelfth century.

But there is no intention here of indulging in a cheap gibe at the Gothic Revival. It was, as we now see, a mistake ; but in a sense it was a noble mistake. On the part of most of those who promoted it, it was not a pose, but a sincere conviction : and it had, at all events, the really beneficent effect of arousing for the time an enthusiastic interest in architecture : and without enthusiasm there is nothing to be hoped for a national architecture. And now we see that a change has come over the spirit of the Church ; the old ecclesiological narrowness of spirit is being broken down : there is a plea for greater breadth of sympathy and for a larger and more all-embracing unity of faith and worship. And how is this to be expressed and symbolised in a form of church architecture into which a new enthusiasm may be breathed ?

The first question is one of plan, or, rather, of plan and section ; for all architecture, if you hunt it down to its primordial essence, is the expression of a conception in plan and section. Now, the mediæval church plan, adopted by the Gothic revivalists, does not express the conditions of modern congregational worship. In the first place, it is an essentially processional plan. Secondly, it is an unreasoning imitation of the cathedral plan, with the long choir, more or less shut off from the nave by a screen, intended for the ecclesiastics who sang the service within that enclosure, while the laity were relegated to the nave. The imitation of this in the parish church, with the choristers placed in a long, narrow choir, is utterly illogical and absurd ; the choristers are not a specially sacrosanct body, and there is no excuse for fencing them off from the congregation into a kind of holy of holies ; and for their actual function, that of singing the musical portion of a service, or leading the singing of the congregation where the latter are able to join in, no position could be practically worse than the long choir : which also practically means in most cases the boxing up of the organ in what is called an "organ chamber" alongside of the choir, and no position could be worse for the organ. The dilemma was the subject of special consideration a good many years ago by a joint committee of architects and organists (of which the present writer was a member), and they came, unanimously or by a large majority, to the conclusion that the best position for the choristers was about halfway down the nave, on either side, so as to be among and a part of the congregation, while the organ could be placed in a west end gallery, the best position for it *quâ* organ, and sufficiently near to the choristers to give them, as well as the congregation, the requisite support.

The suppression of the long, narrow chancel suggests the reversion to the earliest type of Christian church, the Basilica form of plan, with narrow side-aisles, for passage only, separated from the central space by a colonnade, and terminating at the east end in an apse nearly the full width of the central space. Such a plan could be roofed either with a timber roof or (if the walls are thick enough) with a barrel vault of monumental materials. And is this what you are offering us, thinks the reader, in place of the soaring beauty of the Gothic vault ? Well, the Gothic vault, arrived at in its best form as the

result of two centuries' struggle with practical difficulties of construction, is not a very scientific form of structure. Few of the enthusiastic laity who admire the effect of the soaring vaulting-ribs suspect the amount of "fudging" which was often employed by mediæval builders to get the group of ribs apparently to start symmetrically from the capital of the vaulting-shaft: and anyone who takes an opportunity of getting into the timber roof with which a stone vault has to be covered from the weather, and looking down on the vault surface from above, will probably have his eyes a good deal opened, and will recognise that this is hardly a very scientific or workmanlike method of covering in a space.

But we are not necessarily confined to the long form of the Basilica plan, however rendered venerable by early Church tradition. There is the alternative of the plan based on the provision of a wide central floor space, and perhaps this is the more fitting symbol for the Church of comprehensive unity, if we are to realise that ideal. Wren thought so, at all events: he would have planned St. Paul's on that principle if he had been allowed his own way, and the really sublime model for that conception, made under Wren's directions, and still preserved in the recesses of the cathedral, ought to be more accessible and visible to the public than it is. And the natural roofing for a wide central space is the dome, the finest architectural feature invented by man, and the most structurally satisfactory, for, as Fergusson drily remarks (*History of Architecture*) "it is as difficult to build a dome that will fall as a vault that will not." The central area roofed by a dome is the finest and most appropriate type of plan for the church of the future. The plan would naturally take the form of a Greek cross—a cross with equal arms each way (the walls of these arms being structurally necessary to buttress the dome): the western arm would form a vestibule or narthex; the northern and southern arms would afford space for a large organ and choir, divided: the eastern arm would form the chancel, or communion-table enclosure.

Such a church, especially on a large scale, would be susceptible of most impressive architectural treatment, especially in the interior. The dome is, no doubt, a difficult feature to treat externally because its lines are all falling away from the eye: but there is nothing in architecture affording such fine opportunities for internal effect. Then there is the decorative detail to be considered. St. Paul's offers a useful lesson on this subject. As a whole it is a grand architectural conception, but all the detail is pagan, not Christian, and it is *bad* pagan. Sir William Richmond's mosaics in the ceiling of the choir have a beautiful colour effect in themselves, but they are essentially Byzantine in type, and quite out of keeping with the architecture of the building. At the same time we may be glad that the church was not decorated with mosaics in Wren's time and according to "the judgment of the surveyor," for then we should have had an interior dome such as Pope sarcastically referred to—

Where sprawl the saints of Verrio and Laguerre.

We have been spared that, at all events. Thornhill's well-intended and respectable paintings are no offence to one's taste in one sense: their failing is that they do not assist the situation, either in colour or design: the colour is dull and heavy, and it is a mistake to paint set pictures with an architectural framework on the curvilinear surface of a dome: they look distorted and out of place. The decoration of a dome should be, not a *picture* in the usual sense of the word, but a decorative symbolism: figures, if any, should appear to float, not stand. A late eminent French painter, M. Marioton, understood this thoroughly, and does not appear to have left any adequate successor in this form of art. One can imagine, for a dome, a kind of glory, for instance, of angelic faces and wings, rising gyre on gyre: a decorative effect with a spiritual symbolism inherent in it. And with that as the culmination of the interior, all other decorative detail should, if possible, bear a symbolic signification. And let it be remembered that a little well-designed and thoughtful decoration is worth far more than a sumptuous decoration with no well-considered and thoughtful design.

One can imagine a noble series of churches for the future, erected on the lines here suggested: the monumental dome soaring above the interior: the pavement affording space for a grand symbolical design, as in some of the churches of Italy: everything in the interior tending to uplift and solemnise the

spirit of the worshipper. " And do you not know," says an objector, " that a domical roof is the very worst form for a speaker to make himself heard under ? What about the sermon ? " Well, if the objector thinks the sermon the most important part of public worship, it may be suggested that he has not yet realised what public worship is for. It is not for the worshippers to be lectured to, it is for them to have an opportunity for offering up prayer and praise together. A church is not a mere auditorium, and is not to be planned and designed as such. In days when there were few books and no serial publications, and when many of the average congregations could not read, a sermon or exposition of religious faith and rule of life was useful and even necessary for their guidance. But there is no necessity now for the church to be a kind of lecture hall ; to regard it and treat it so is to take a very prosaic view of the problem of church architecture. Rather is it to be a building where the beauty and solemnity of architecture and music are to combine to raise the soul above the prose of everyday existence into a region of spiritual emancipation, of praise and thanksgiving. It is for the architects of the new generation, keeping this high object in view, to evolve for us a church architecture which will express and assist our highest aspirations.

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## MEMORIAL WINDOWS.

By ARTHUR S. DIXON, M.A.Oxon. [*F.*].

I WISH to make it clear that I do not presume to speak about so intricate and technical a subject as stained glass, except, as it were, from the outside, as an architect may be allowed to speak. And the question which I propose to try to answer is : what the qualities or characteristics are whose presence or absence would lead us to feel that windows ought or ought not to be considered acceptable in churches.

This question is not a very easy one to answer, and I may perhaps approach it best if I ask the same question first of other things than windows. What, for instance, are the qualities which constitute the excellence of a church ? This is an easier question, for a church has two very definite functions to perform, and it can be judged by its performance of them. First, it has the purely material or utilitarian function of providing shelter— *i.e.*, enclosing a space with four or more walls and putting a roof on top of them. This is sometimes a very simple problem in construction, and sometimes it becomes very complicated ; but whatever the constructive problems may be, they must be solved in such a way that the composition of the lines and shapes to which they lead shall be harmonious and pleasant. The other great function of a church is the expression of ideas or feelings. The great west fronts of Amiens and Rheims are— or were— an ordered and logical expression in stone of the whole system of Christian doctrine and Christian ethics, as well as of the current science and day-by-day life of the time. The same is true of the sculpture at Chartres and Paris, and in lesser degree of the other great French churches of the 13th century, and of Wells and Exeter in England. The mosaics of the 4th to the 12th centuries in Rome and Ravenna and Venice, and the frescoes and wall paintings of the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries in Italy, were expressive of the dominant religious ideas and feelings of their respective times. Incidentally, construction and expression resulted in work of such beauty as has long been beyond our attainment. But beauty seems to have been a secondary object, if, indeed, it was a conscious object at all. It seems to have been the inevitable result of well-directed energy and thought, which had for their primary objects material utility and spiritual expression.

It follows from this that when we judge or criticise a building we demand that the performance of its material or utilitarian function should be efficient ; that the arrangement or composition of lines and shapes and colours by which this end is attained should be pleasant and harmonious. And in the matter of the expression of feelings and ideas I think that we demand that it should be clear and



definite and in harmony with certain standards which we acknowledge of dignity and beauty. (I am not quite sure that the last point would be admitted by every school of thought to-day.) A picture has this in common with a building : that it is also a combination of lines and shapes and colours : but so also is a wall paper or a textile fabric. From a strictly etymological point of view, it might be called a picture or painting, if it were nothing more. But we should hardly call it a picture or think it justified as a picture if it did not convey to us a thought or an emotion. A landscape, for instance, is not a mere copy of certain existing facts which we call nature : it is rather a means of conveying from the mind of the painter to the mind of the spectator certain truths which the painter has perceived, or feelings which nature has aroused in his mind. A picture in which figures are employed will convey impressions which have been made on the painter's mind by his observation of human nature, or theories or doctrines which he embodies in human, or partly human, forms.

What then are the qualities which we demand in a picture ? In the first place, a certain pleasantness or beauty, or, at least, a certain orderliness and dignity in the combination of lines and colours : and in the second place, the suggestion of certain ideas, facts, or feelings, which must be of a certain value or importance. Mr. Ruskin has said that a picture is not a great picture unless it either reveals a noble truth or arouses a noble emotion. All pictures need not be great pictures : but, at least, we demand of them that they convey to our minds some idea or some feeling which is of some value or interest.

A window can do all these things of which I have spoken in connection with pictures : but there are some things which a window can do and which a picture cannot do : and there are things which a picture can do much better than a window and which a window had better not attempt. A window is capable of much greater intensity of colour than a picture ; glass through which the light passes is capable of a fiery brilliance which cannot be attained on plaster or canvas or paper. This particular quality it must never forgo : it must always look like glass, and it must always retain, at whatever loss of other qualities, that peculiar jewel-like quality which belongs to glass. On the other hand, there are certain things a picture can do much better than a window : such as effects of light and shade, and perspective and distance. These things a window had better not attempt, partly because it can never do them well, and partly because, if attempted, they would be likely to diminish the very qualities of brilliant colour which are its especial glory.

A window differs from a picture in another way. A picture is not a necessity : we can, if necessary, do without pictures altogether, and therefore a picture, in order to justify its existence, must have something important to tell us. A window has a utilitarian necessity : we must have it to keep out the rain and the wind—it is justified if it does nothing more : and if the glass is coloured, it is justified if the colours are so arranged as to give pleasure to our eyes. It may be nothing more than a pleasant arrangement of lines and colours, and still it is justified. But the designer of a window may, if he will, fill it with figures of men and women and saints and angels, and so make expression of thought and emotion : he may let the red and blue and green and golden light so shine through the glass as to quicken the hearts of worshippers and guide their intelligence. And so it follows that there are two main points by which a window may be judged—colour and draughtsmanship.

Of course, there is no rule by which we can say whether the colour of a window is good or bad. You may think the colour of one beautiful, and I of another : there can be no proof which is right : all we can do is to train our judgment by continual observation of good examples, and all who have done so are agreed that much better colouring is found in old glass than in new. Here in Birmingham we are in easy reach of much fine old glass : and I venture to say that anyone who is taking upon himself the responsibility of beautifying, or possibly degrading, one of our churches by the addition of a window should, if possible, spend some time in studying the examples of ancient glass at Gloucester or Malvern or Warwick or Oxford, or even, if he can find time to get there, as far off as York or Chartres or Bourges.

I shall, I am sure, be asked if it be true that the colouring of ancient windows is richer and more beautiful than that of our modern windows—what is the reason why this should be so. Was the ancient glass in itself better than ours? I would answer that 60 or 70 years ago, when the revival of painted or stained glass windows began, this was undoubtedly the case. There was only to be got at that time smooth, flat, very clear glass from which it was impossible to get the variety and richness of colour and texture which marks the old windows. But since that time many varieties of glass have been introduced, and although the very skill with which modern glass is made has robbed it of certain qualities which made easier the task of the window painter, still there is now obtainable glass of admirable colour and of great variety of thickness and texture: and we must, I think, admit that if ancient windows are as a rule better than modern windows the difference is due not so much to the quality of the materials we use as to the knowledge and skill with which they are manipulated.

The quality of colour in a window does not depend entirely or even principally upon the quality of the colour of individual pieces of glass. A single piece of colour does not make its quality felt until it is seen in relation and in juxtaposition to other colours. The skilful arrangement of pieces of coloured glass is more important in relation to the final effect than the quality of the colour of individual pieces. You or I may get together a collection of the finest and most costly pigments in the world and put them together on a canvas, and the result might be some kind of a mess: it might not in the real, true sense be colour at all. But let a Raphael put colours on a canvas, let his skilful hand arrange them in certain proportions and certain ways of juxtaposition which are revealed to his trained intelligence by intuition of laws which he himself perhaps only partly understands: then the colours begin to sing together, as the painters say, and for the first time you have what can really be called colour.

I am not one of those who can even begin to explain the laws which govern the harmony of colour. I suppose there are no colours which a great painter cannot mate together. A square foot of green and a square foot of red may be enemies for ever: but reduce the red to a square inch and the two may get on very well together. One tint of blue and one tint of red may clash: alter the strength of one or the other, and they may harmonise. An easier method, and one much used in mediæval times, was to separate colours by a neutral colour or white or black. The brightest and even crudest vermilions and greens and blues are found in the colouring of our mediæval screens in Norfolk and Devonshire: they are separated from each other by lines of white or gold, and the result is soft and harmonious.

This method was embodied in the heraldic rule that colour is never superimposed on colour or metal on metal, but always colour on metal or metal on colour. Metal means gold and silver, and covers also white pigments instead of silver and sometimes yellow instead of gold. Black will also serve, and so will a neutral tint like brown or grey. In the roof of the sacristy at Sta. Croce at Florence the brown pine beams are partly coloured: the brown of the timber separates and harmonises the bright red and blue and green pigments. The glass of which a window is composed is self-coloured: it is flashed with red and stained with green or blue or purple while it lies liquid in the furnace: but the drawing of outlines and of such elementary shading as is permissible in a window is done on the surface of the coloured glass with a brown pigment, which is afterwards burnt in. The skilful use of this brown pigment is very useful in the harmonising of colours, but nothing is more effective in this way than the black bands of lead with which the pieces of coloured glass are held and bound together: and the thicker or wider the bands or cams of lead, the greater is their effect. In early times it was only possible to get glass in very small pieces: but this was often an advantage, for it increased the relative quantity of the harmonising lines of black.

In the matter of draughtsmanship the difference between old and new is as great or greater. Many of our modern draughtsmen are very skilful: they may be even more learned in anatomy and perspective than their predecessors, more skilful in the matter of light and shade, more realistic in certain superficial ways, but these are things that do not really count in a window. What really counts

after the mere colour is the power of expressing feelings and emotions, and in these great qualities it is very seldom that the modern designer approaches the standard of the old one.

This is no matter for surprise, for it seems clear that each human faculty finds its highest development at different stages or epochs in the evolution of civilisation, and when the age to which a certain art belongs is past and gone it would seem that we cannot expect an equal development of that art until the kaleidoscope of the world has been shaken up and a new age begins. We think of our own age as having begun some time during or after the dissolution of the Roman Empire. Sculpture and architecture had their highest development in the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries: painting in the fourteenth and fifteenth: music in the seventeenth and eighteenth; literature, as some think, in the sixteenth: our own epoch is one of science and mechanics. The greatest intellectual power of our time appears to be directed towards science and mechanics, and this being so, it is not strange that we should not get at the same time the greatest success in any of the arts.

More important, perhaps, than the power of expression is the quality of the ideas and thoughts which we seek to express. On the mentality, if I may use so ugly a word, of a design depends its power to impress and touch our hearts, and the mentality of a design, if it is real, must always be the reflection of the mentality of the designer. Whatever is the quality of his mind will be the quality of his design. And here, I think, we fail very often, for our prevailing modern mentality seems to be rather shallow and sentimental and superficial.

I have been speaking in very general terms, and it is not easy in this way to make my meaning quite clear. I could make it much clearer if I could have obtained some coloured photographic reproductions of windows; but such things are not yet, though I hope they soon will be, obtainable. Let me, however, try to deal with some specific examples.

The subject of the Crucifixion was used in the earlier times, in the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries, as a symbol of one of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity: I mean the sacrifice and atonement of Christ and salvation by the precious blood. Later, and especially in Spain, it was used as a symbol of human suffering: or, if you like, of the splendid truth that the God we worship is one who shares our sufferings. But in the time of the Renaissance, in the sixteenth century, the same subject was used as a vehicle for the exhibition of anatomical knowledge, and examples are not uncommon in which little expression remains of any definite feeling or doctrine whatever.

The symbol of the doctrine of the Incarnation, the Blessed Virgin and her Child, was used in earlier times principally for the purpose of illustrating and inculcating the doctrine of the Incarnation: the Renaissance painters and sculptors seem to have forgotten its original intention and to have used it as a symbol of human and maternal love.

Many doctrinal subjects, such as that of the Last Judgment, have almost ceased in our times to be represented in the arts. Mediæval churches were crowded with figures of apostles and prophets which were always used with real and living significance: with martyrs whose splendid, and one might almost say fortunate, deaths were vividly realised: with saints whose continued and living influence on the spiritual fortunes of men were fervently believed. I shall not, I think, be contradicted if I say that for us when we use their memories for the decoration of our churches they have nearly, if not quite, lost their vital significance.

The point is that we want more definite intention and clearer reality in our modern work: we ought not to use any subject or any figure unless we use it to represent some idea or feeling which is really vital to us. For this reason, I think we must welcome any attempt to use subjects such as those which are connected with the late war. They make a real and direct appeal to us at the present time, and they will be an historical record for future generations of considerable interest and value. But the representation of such subjects involves great difficulties: we have no well-tried tradition to assist us in the treatment of modern costume, and we must be very careful to avoid over-realistic treatment on the one hand and the prevailing tendency to sentimentality on the other.

I do not know whether I ought to use such words as "sentimental" and "realistic," for they are words of rather vague and uncertain meaning. I must, at any rate, try to explain what I mean by them. I find I have used the word "real" in two different and, indeed, opposite senses; in one sense we want more of it, and in another less. We want more reality in thought and less realism on the surface. When we try to express a thought or feeling we ought to make quite sure that it is a real thought or feeling of our own, and not one which we have taken or copied second-hand, and without full understanding, from someone else. But we need not be too careful as to exact correspondence with fact if it interferes with or actually diminishes the especial clear or transparent quality of the glass itself.

Reality of thought. Let me try to probe this a little deeper. I once lost my pocket book in a wood in Switzerland, and coming back to the hotel I told the patrona of my loss. "Why do you not ask St. Anthony to find it?" "I should not like to trouble a great Saint with my little losses—I should not think it respectful." "Do you not know his story? He lived in Padua in the thirteenth century. He spent his life in tending and comforting little children. When he died he found himself without the great happiness of his life and it was arranged for him that he should find for people things they had lost; they should put 50 centimes in the little trunk by the plaster images of the saint which you so often see in our houses, and these thankofferings shall be given to homeless children. He likes you to ask him for help."

My pocket book was found by another guest in the hotel who wished me to know his name was Antonio. To these people St. Anthony is a real living personality: that is why they like to dedicate churches to his name and to see his image in their churches and their homes. This is reality of thought.

So it is with another saint—St. Joseph—whose cult is so widespread in modern times. They believe he is a living personality, always near and ready to help them in their troubles and difficulties. These instincts and feelings are sometimes trivial and they may be partly superstitious, or there may be reality at the back of them, but the people's thoughts about them are certainly real.

We, on the other hand, when we dedicate our churches or choose the subjects for our windows, how do we make our choice? We do not know very much about, shall we say, St. Jude or St. Matthias, but we have already in the town a church dedicated to St. Paul and St. Peter. We have already a figure of St. John and St. Luke in that other window, and we had better not go outside the New Testament; so we choose St. Jude or St. Matthias; but is there any living reality in our feeling about them?

Sentimentality is much the same word in its origin as emotion or feeling; emotion and feeling of the right sort are the last things we want to get rid of. I am not sure if there is any emotion which can be called in itself essentially sentimental: but I conceive that a strong and noble emotion can easily become sentimental in the manner of its expression. It may become sentimental if it is exaggerated, or if it lack restraint and become hysterical. There is, also, a difference between different kinds of emotion; some are profound, some superficial: some are lasting or permanent; some are fleeting and they soon pass away: and the latter when expressed in permanent form become a source of weariness and irritation.

I do not think you could ever find anything you could call sentimental in ancient windows. You might at first sight think the old glass painters' figures deficient in expression, but on closer examination I think we must admit—and this more particularly applies to the earlier thirteenth and fourteenth century windows—that there is a very remarkable strength of expression in the lineaments of their faces and in the pose of their figures. The longer we look at them the more we must be impressed with the depth of sober feeling they manage to get out of their simple lines and touches. Every face and every figure seem to have a different and interesting and important thing to tell us.

Another fault they always manage to avoid is any appearance of self-consciousness in their figures; their figures never look as if they were sitting for their portraits. Our modern figures more

often than not look as if they were having their photographs taken. I fancy the reason is the direct use of models ; it would be safer perhaps if our modern designers did not use a model for any particular figure they are designing, if they did not draw their designs directly from the model. Of course, a designer must train himself in the knowledge of the human face and figure by long courses of drawing from models. But the actual figure in the window should come, I believe, from images formed in his own mind by the action of present thought on the garnered treasures of past experience and observation, rather than from a model posed and chosen for the particular purpose of the design in the actual making.

I think we have now come across one or two points which ought to be some guidance to us in the selection of designers for our church windows. In the matter of colour and other questions of technique, such as the selection of glass and the manner of the leading, the coloured sketches which are generally submitted are little or no use as a guide. It is impossible to tell from them what a window will be like in these respects. We ought, therefore, as a general rule to make a point of going to see some of the work already executed by the designer to whom we are inclined. I say "as a general rule" because if we made the rule too strict a new designer would never get the chance to make a beginning.

In the matter of expression the case is different ; the original sketch generally gives a very good idea of the mentality of the designer. If his way of thought is weak or sentimental or superficial we can detect it at once just as we can recognise in the original sketch his power of drawing or the virility of his mind. I venture to say we ought to make up our minds to take trouble to spend time in selecting designers whose work will give dignity to the church, instruction to the people, and real assistance to devotion.

Then there is the question of cost. A painted window used to cost, before the war, from £2 10s. to £4 a square foot. Now they seem to cost about double. And I hear people say, "So and so's window may be better, but we cannot afford it." Well, there is an easy way out of this difficulty. You need not fill the whole window with coloured glass. There are some very fine windows, both old and modern, in which a large proportion of the glass, perhaps as much as two-thirds, is left plain and white. In this way it is clear that the cost may be reduced from, say, £6 to about £2 10s., or from £8 to £3 or thereabouts per foot. It is much better to have a window one-third of which is good than one of which no part is good : and the plain white glass makes a very good and effective foil or set-off for the little piece or pieces of colour.

Another way of reducing cost is to do away with figures or drawings altogether, and to be content with a mere arrangement in skilfully designed leading of pieces of coloured glass. There are many cases in ancient churches of old glass collected from broken-up windows and re-set as a mere pattern of kaleidoscopic colour. The same kind of thing can be done, and has been done, with new glass with excellent effect, and I suppose that even now such a window need not cost more than 30s. a foot. Such a window would not be considered suitable for a memorial, but it would be quite possible to insert in a window consisting principally of a pattern of tinted glass one or more small figures or medallions, and in this way also cost may be considerably reduced.

Our bishop has lately expressed dissatisfaction at the kind and quality of windows which are being put into churches in this diocese, and wishes us to make an effort to improve our standard. I think the first step is to get clear in our minds what are the qualities we can get and ought to want in a window, and what are those which we cannot get and ought not to want, and to ask our designers for the former, and not for the latter. And for the rest we live in the age in which Morris and Burne-Jones and Madox Brown lived and did their splendid work. We live in the town in which Burne-Jones was born, and in which are to be seen some of his finest windows. We ought to realise that glass painting is one of the greatest and noblest of the arts, and we ought not to be satisfied to lag too far behind the steps of our own great masters.

*Birmingham.*

A. S. D.

## THE FUTURE OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

DISCUSSION ON MR. WATERHOUSE'S PAPER [*ante*, pp. 165-172].Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*, in the Chair.

Sir L. AMHERST SELBY BIGGE, K.C.B. (Permanent Secretary, Board of Education), speaking at the invitation of the President, said: It is in no spirit of formality that I rise to move this vote of thanks. I am accustomed to hear discourses upon education, and confess that they sometimes induce in me a feeling of weariness. But I have not felt in the least weary to-night, for I have never listened to a more charming or more "alive" discourse on the subject in which it is my professional duty to take an interest. I should not presume to criticize anything which Mr. Waterhouse has said, because I am a learner in these matters—a layman and, what is perhaps worse, a presumptuous layman. At one time I was so fired by the joys of architecture that I was guilty of building a large part of my own house without an architect. That is not an experiment I am going to repeat, because before I got to the end I found I was in some difficulties, and ultimately had to call in an architect. Mr. Waterhouse has touched on many topics which reverberate within our own walls and with which we are in agreement. Many questions, many disputes, many theories reverberate in our walls, but have rather a different sound there and a different application, yet I recognised some of them in the discourse we have just listened to, and I can assure Mr. Waterhouse that I know just enough to understand his point of view. Underlying that discourse there are questions of vast importance and interest, not only for this Institute, but for the organisation of one department of public education.

Mr. W. R. DAVIES, C.B. (Principal Assistant Secretary, Technological Branch, Board of Education): It has been a great pleasure to me to read Mr. Waterhouse's paper, and I am sure we can say it has lost nothing in the hearing. We are at present dealing with the Architectural Association on the subject of their school, and I have felt some trepidation in venturing into this field, even with the aid of a certain amount of financial assistance. I have felt that the first thing we have to do is to try and understand the institution we are going to help, and I have come here to-night in the hope that I and my colleagues who will have to deal with this matter will be a little better instructed in the subject they are handling. I hope you will send us printed copies of the discussion so that we may put them in our archives. I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Professor BERESFORD PITE [*F.*]: One cannot begin without emphasising the extreme pleasure with which we have listened to Mr. Waterhouse. We knew his paper would be sound, we knew it would be interesting, and we knew there would be not only lam-

bent humour in it, but also some shrewd digs. And he has certainly acquitted himself in the way we expected, and we have very much enjoyed his address. The position at the present moment can be cleared up, I think, with the assistance of the Institute archives. If we could have a report, a summary, that would show the result of the examinations for, say, five years previous to 1911, giving us the total number of those who have sat for the Intermediate Examination—I imagine about 200 a year—and of that number tell us how many have come to that stage from schools, and how many not from schools, it would clear the matter considerably. In other words, how many have sought exemption by the examinations of the schools, and how many have sat under the Institute. I may be wrong, but my impression is that something less than half the architectural education up to the Intermediate point is done in the schools. The rest is done somehow or other: done in the office—if not under formal pupilage, at least under office training; so that all the statements and all the congratulations on the work of the schools can be properly distributed on the number of students with whom they deal, and the problem of the examination or education of the remainder can be looked at from its proper standpoint, which is not that of scholastic education. Now we come to the Final Examination. I would like to know, in the same way, how many come up for the Final, and compare that number with the number who come up for the Intermediate, and observe whether there is a leakage between the two. Also, I think, we should like to know what is the proportion of those who pass the Final Examination and those who present themselves, and what record the Institute may have of those who failed to pass, whether they come back again or whether they are lost. Information of that sort would be useful in considering important developments. I want to point out this: that the system of the recognised schools, the recognised practical university education for the examinations of the Institute, only applies up to the Intermediate standpoint. As long as the Institute maintains itself as at present, holding the Final Examination itself, and keeping the Final Examination in the hands of those architects who have not got enough business to occupy themselves with ("No!" and laughter)—well, obviously, if you are too busy you cannot do it: let us be honest with ourselves. If this Institute maintains the position of keeping this Final Examination wholly in the hands of the men who are able to afford the time to conduct it, it puts a stop on the whole progress of architectural education at the Intermediate Examination. Please recognise that, as clearly and as

forcibly as you can, because I am merely stating facts. And I think I can carry the fact farther by pointing out that, in consequence of the establishment of the Intermediate Examination and the allowance of certificates of exemption to schools, every one of those schools is a completed course of architectural education, leading up to the Intermediate standpoint—and from that standpoint, nothing. There is not a school of architecture in the country which has got a completed course of examination up to the Institute Final Examination. [Professor REILLY (Liverpool University): We have.] Professor Reilly says they have at Liverpool. I would like to take the instance of a University like Liverpool as a case in point. I do not know how long it has been established, but I know Liverpool is an exceedingly progressive school, and we have at the present moment a draft of further developments. What happens is this: that a progressive University, like Liverpool or Manchester, takes the Intermediate Examination of this Institute as a step towards its own Degree in Architecture. That is its course of advanced study, it is not a course of advanced study for the Intermediate or the Final Examination. That is held by a group of gentlemen here, expressing their own personal opinions with regard to certain subjects in design, and, finally, one individual exercising his personal opinion upon one particular design made under certain circumstances. Such a course would never commend itself to a university. What happens at Liverpool or Manchester is that the Intermediate standard is accepted to a certain point, and then the university takes its own course for its own B.Sc. with architecture. The progressive course of architectural education is stemmed at the Intermediate point at the present moment, and there it stops. Let us recognise that fact. The Architectural Association will find itself in a difficulty with regard to the Final Examination as at present constituted. Let me suggest to the Institute that it necessarily follows that if you are prepared to accept the certificates of further courses towards the Final Examination, you will at once create those Final courses in the schools which already have the courses for the Intermediate; and if you do that, you at once give architectural education its needed impetus towards a higher development and towards a Final development here. I emphasise in the warmest way the suggestion Mr. Waterhouse made that the Final Examination should, tentatively and experimentally at present, if you will, be divided, so that the technical courses may be still continued in the university and in the recognised schools, the certificates and examinations subject, as at present, to the assistance of external examiners, and the course of the Board at the Institute be accepted for the technical part of the Final Examination. I am very glad Mr. Waterhouse has put that so simply and so sweetly, and I hope that the Council of the Institute will give weight to it, and consider the very important bearing it is bound to have on the educational programmes of the recognised

schools in the preparation and establishment of university courses for the Final Examination in Architecture. In the advanced stage the help of the teacher is more needed than in the Intermediate: the advanced stages in scientific construction and in the application of building law, to say nothing of problems in design, are those in which the help of an inspiring teacher is almost everything. It is here that the student will gain most. And I am persuaded that the interests of architectural education lie in the pursuit of the final and ultimate stages rather than in the intermediate standpoint. With regard to the Final Examination and its subject matter, something further has to be said. I have been all along, and I still am, entirely unconvinced of the capacity or of the propriety, unconvinced of the desirability, of the Institute taking to itself the position of being the ultimate critic of architectural design. I fear that the fine art of Architecture would lose its liberty. The progressive years are the years of a student's life when he experiments in architectural design, when his mind is active, when problems connected with ferro-concrete construction, or the planning of a city, present themselves to his mind in the most delightful form. And sympathy for the young student's point of view, appreciation of his originality and freedom, are vital, and are not to be expected from the class of men who constitute the Final Examination Board of this Institute. That has got to be said clearly, because it is felt deeply, and it is obviously true. There is nothing in the Constitution of this Institute, in its history, in its habits, and in its personnel, which at all justifies the supposition that we are Fellows of this Institute because we are distinguished artists, or that we are members of the Council because we are more distinguished architects, or that we are members of the Architectural Education Board because we are the superior artists of the lot. That is an absurd position which none of us here can take, and which none pretend can be taken; but it is a position into which we shall be driven if the Council persist in keeping the whole Final Examination not in the hands of the Institute, but in the hands of men by whom only it can be carried out, those spare-time practitioners who have not enough work to keep them occupied otherwise. But I am not blind to the other side, the practical side of the question. Mr. Waterhouse has prepared the way for that. It is absolutely necessary that it be recognised and stated clearly that the architect can never be produced in the school. The real, live, practical architect is not the product of any course of study. There is an interest—and delightful suggestions are connected with that word now after Mr. Waterhouse's definition—there is a wonderful interest between the architect and materials, between the architect and work, between the architect and problems; and, quite apart from the fact that this Institute justifiably takes upon itself the position of saying that such and such a man is suitable to be entrusted with public and private work of importance,



the architect needs contact with building, and with business, and with men, or else his dreams will continue dreams and will never be built on solid earth. It is a question whether the first three years of his training, or the second two years, is the best period for the man to take his office experience. Let us keep an open mind on that, so that we do not get ourselves into the position of compelling the student to take his first three years in a school for the Intermediate, and then take his second group of years working in an office in the daytime and attending schools at night. We must start the man at once in contact with actual work. I would like the Institute to show us if half the students who come to the Intermediate Examination come from offices, not from schools, and therefore have taken their office experience first. And I would like to make this contribution of experience to the matter: that the ablest students I have had to deal with—those students who developed the greatest ability, ability to the greatest extent, which I would describe very highly—have commenced life in the lower grades of the architect's office, and at a later period, owing to evening study and assiduous work, have obtained scholarships and university or college courses. I attach very great value to practical acquaintance with architectural drawings in the office, with building work in the early stages as well as in the later. We are all agreed it is necessary some time, I only ask you to consider whether it has as great value at the outset as at a later period. With regard to the Final Examination, these questions of professional practice and building conduct, and practical life, which can only be acquired in an office, may properly be tested by a board of practitioners, certainly could be better tested by practitioners than by a board of water-tight instructors of architecture, and the Institute may keep that in its own hands, if it wishes. But I point out the real difficulty of London practitioners narrowed in their outlook incessantly by the Metropolitan Building Act of 1894, putting questions to healthy-minded, large-hearted country youths who, happily, are free from it. And London practitioners are absurdly ignorant of local government management and of the by-laws which, in extraordinary variety, govern building throughout the country. So the question is not merely one which can be settled by a Board of London practitioners, it is one which is much larger, and it will want careful consideration. But if the continuation of architectural studies in schools, linked with architectural practice in offices, whether taken at an early or at a later stage, is a solution of our difficulty, accepting the certificate of the school for advanced work, and accepting the verdict of a properly constituted board for the other, I am in hearty sympathy, and I think we owe a great debt of thanks to Mr. Waterhouse for putting the matter so clearly before us.

The PRESIDENT: I would venture to interpolate a word. We have listened with great pleasure to

Professor Pite's extremely able, if somewhat mordant, speech, but there was a tone of personality in that speech, an attack on gentlemen to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude, and I hope that line of argument will not be pursued. It does not deal with principles at all. Let us confine ourselves to principles and conduct the debate with all amenity.

Professor REILLY [F.] (Liverpool University): It is a very usual practice when you cannot agree with the matter in a sermon to praise its manner. I hope, therefore, if I add my tribute to the form of Mr. Waterhouse's address it will not be thought that I disagree with its conclusions. Architects, and especially, shall we say, academically trained architects, should always be ready to appreciate style and character wherever it is found. We must all admire, therefore, the singularly graceful mould into which Mr. Waterhouse has cast his thought. But though I welcome very heartily Mr. Waterhouse's conclusions, I cannot say that I unhesitatingly accept his history. I do not agree with the educational value he attaches to those old Institute examinations of the 'eighties and 'nineties. We must remember what that period was. It was the end of the Victorian era, the time of Mr. Samuel Smiles and *Self Help*, the time when everyone had a pathetic belief in examinations. The good apprentice was supposed, after rubbing up his master's ink all day and tracing his master's drain plans, to return to his garret at night to cram up useful facts for his next examination. We even had in this city a body arrogating to itself the style and title of a university—University of London forsooth—which only existed to examine. When we think of the noble functions implied in the word "university," there is small wonder that foreign nations with this example in our capital before them sometimes think us hypocrites. That has all been changed. Another generation has laughed it out of existence. To-day the University of London is a great body of *savants* and teachers engaged in preaching the boundaries of knowledge in every direction. It seems to me that we, too, in this Institute are at last passing out of the purely examination stage. I know from personal experience what that stage meant and how little it had to do with education. Like most people, I suppose, when an Institute examination was due I left the office for a fortnight to cram up facts in the Institute library. I looked up the names of the examiners and saw what sort of design would be likely to please them. It was the time of Norman Shaw, and for my Final Examination the design subject was a town house. Like many others, I expect, I went down to Queen's Gate and studied on the spot a famous house of Mr. Shaw's. I did rather well. Then I was qualified by examination for membership of the Institute. The other side of our training in those days, if such it can be called, was pupillage. On leaving Cambridge, I had the opportunity of going into a great architect's office. It was Mr. Belcher's, and I felt while there all the glowing enthusiasm for my master which the young man

generally feels. I left his office thoroughly believing in all his idiosyncrasies in design. I had little sketch books full of them. I believed Mr. Belcher's tricks were better than anyone else's—better, for instance, than Sir Aston Webb's. But I had not the breadth of view necessary to distinguish these tricks of detail from the real framework of design. It took me years to discover their source in the Genoese Baroque and the Viennese secession. I had a personal view of architecture rather than a general one. My taste had no solid foundation. Now it is this solid foundation for taste which the schools with their systematic training can give. It was, indeed, for this that they were founded, and not, as Mr. Waterhouse implies, to enable candidates to pass the Institute's examinations. It is to the lasting honour of the Architectural Association that it has always kept the real and not the examination goal in view. It was to further the art of architecture, and not the art of passing examinations, that the citizens of Liverpool founded their Chair of Architecture. In recent years, however, the Board of Architectural Education has realised something of this, and designs made during training have become a feature of their scheme. But it was due to pressure from the schools that this was done. For in the schools designs engender an enthusiasm not known elsewhere. As the time for each competition draws to an end and the pressure increases, students have been known to stay in the studio all night, and to break windows to return on Sundays! All the schools are full now. In Liverpool we have nearly 150 students. It is a time for great results if the enthusiasm is not damped down as it would be if we tried to measure ourselves by the Institute's present standards. They are like a net through which only very small fish, all of much the same shape, can pass. Our best students often fail in the Final R.I.B.A., while our mediocre ones invariably succeed. You can understand, therefore, how I welcome the suggestions of Mr. Waterhouse for decentralising the Final Examination. If the schools, under proper safeguards, are allowed to examine their own students on the technical side of architecture, the Institute is very welcome to examine them on the professional side. Such questions as: "What are you to do when you find gold on the site?" may be necessary and useful but they have little to do with the teaching of architecture. The schools will willingly hand over such! But, seriously, if the Institute will become the friend of the schools, and not the tyrant tolerating but really disliking them, a great change will come over architectural education. Let the Institute support us and help us to obtain new endowments. In Liverpool we are starting a solid five years' course for our Degree and Diploma—as long and serious a course as a doctor's. Let the Institute recognise it as practically equivalent to their Final. The Institutions of Civil and Mechanical Engineers freely give their membership on much less. They do all they can to foster the great University Schools of Engineering. I hope

—indeed, I feel confident—that under Mr. Waterhouse's Chairmanship our own Institute will now do the same.

Mr. LEWIS SOLOMON [F.] said he wished to enter an emphatic protest against the remark of Professor Pite that their examiners were spare-time practitioners who had not enough work to keep them occupied. The exact contrary was the truth. He was not personally concerned, as for many years he had not been an examiner, but he thought it right to say that when he was an examiner he had as his colleagues men like Sir Aston Webb, Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, Mr. John Belcher, and others equally well known—the very best men in the profession, and men who were extremely busy. It was, in fact, always the busy men who seemed able to find the time to devote to matters outside their own practice in order to assist their fellows. As an old man and as a member of the Institute for nearly fifty years, he would urge the young men to take a pride in the Institute, to work up to it, to conceive of it as a great body to which they owed their thanks and their support. He would urge them, above all, to aspire to become the best men in the profession.

Professor A. E. RICHARDSON [F.] (London University): I have listened with great attention to Mr. Waterhouse's paper and to the remarks of other speakers. As a member of the academic staff of the oldest architectural school attached to a university, I should like to make a few observations which may serve to direct attention to weaknesses in the existing system of training. Architecture cannot be taught; it is only possible to encourage a study of its underlying principles: beyond this point the director of studies should not go. Viewing the existing system of architectural training in the broadest way, we find it to consist of two parts. The first including the recognised schools attached to universities, the Architectural Association, and the Royal Academy; the second (and by far the larger) including the numerous art schools and polytechnics throughout the Kingdom. This is a democratic age, and all differences of opinion regarding the value of such planetary systems which have no official status must be set aside. Taking the case of the schools attached to Universities and of the status of the Architectural Association, I would point out that such academic training as these centres afford can only be of a primary nature. The two years' certificate course and the three years' degree course do not make architects, although such training produces Associates of this Institute. Men are enabled to pass the Final Examination at the Institute expeditiously. Many think their days of study are finished when they are only in a position to realise the difficulties before them. In my opinion the present system of training is not sufficiently lengthy to allow of more than a kindergarten idea of the complex principles of building. The aim of this Institute should be to promote not an academic but an ideal atmosphere: it should still retain its position as the premier examining body, with

power to enlarge the constitution of its Educational Board, and should endeavour to co-ordinate and, in a measure, to direct and improve the efforts of academic centres. At the present time it is possible for a student to become an Associate within the short space of five years, whether he attend a university or polytechnic or works unaided. He may proudly put A.R.I.B.A. after his name : but what does it mean ? He is merely a hobbledohoy. It has been suggested that the Atelier system proposed by the Royal Academy, and favoured by certain educational bodies in London, may do much to improve taste and encourage imaginative design. These Ateliers, I am told, will only be open to men of proved efficiency, and the entrance examinations will be very stiff. How then are we to bridge the chasm between the system of day classes followed by experience in offices, and the Atelier system ? An architect's training, in my opinion, if he is to be a real architect should be spread over a term of fifteen years, and then for the rest of his life. What is needed is not a complex educational machine designed to meet every academic contingency, but a simple system of training, including acquaintance with professional practice. English architects are not weak in a knowledge of archaeology, neither are they backward in construction ; their immaturity lies in the direction of design. I rather like Mr. Waterhouse's reference to the Bee, and to this I will add that design consists of the exercise of the imagination on material stored in the mind. This being a period of change in architectural thought, with the spirit of criticism abroad, it is only possible for those endowed with a purview of world conditions to point out the rare examples of traditional achievement as models for future work. In twenty years' time the country will have benefited from the reforms now contemplated ; England will once again take her position as a nation producing great architecture : no longer shall we point to our domestic work as being excellent, while the more important expression of civic art is left to chance. There will be keen competition to obtain entrance to the schools and universities, there will be a progressive system of scholarships, enabling the poorest boy to become an architect if he be gifted. Training will not stop at the doors of Conduit Street, but will be continued by men entrusted with their first commission : the labours of the schools will be correlated and periodical exhibitions held in London and provincial cities. Once a student enters a school, his career will be followed, and, providing he show interest, will not be lost sight of. To conclude, Sir, my point has been to direct your attention to the need for the continuance of study on the part of young architects from the time they leave the university or school until they are in a position to sit for the Institute examination. Above everything else, it is absolutely essential that the practising architect take a personal interest in all matters of training, and that the hands of this Institute be strengthened in this regard.

Dr. ELLIOT SMITH : I feel some embarrassment

about intervening in a discussion on a matter I am quite ignorant of : but as there are certain analogies between the history of medical education and that of the subjects under discussion to-night, perhaps I may be allowed to briefly explain the position of medicine. I am aware of the danger of arguing from analogy, but in Mr. Waterhouse's eloquent address he has given a clear idea of the present position of architecture, and the tendencies being displayed in the subject. In medicine the tendency has been in quite a different direction. Medicine, of course, has passed through the same pupilage phase, and for many years now has been entirely rid of it. I have now completed six years' service on the General Medical Council, which deals with these questions, and at the present time it is trying to do for dental surgery what has long been an accomplished fact in medicine and surgery, putting a stop to the apprenticeship system. In medicine, the tendency has been for the schools to cut more and more adrift from the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, which seem to correspond, more or less closely, to this Institute in relation to your profession. Those colleges have the power of granting diplomas which entitle to practise. But at the present time—and I speak as one who has had many years' experience as Dean of a medical school—no student who has passed the entrance examination for medicine enters for the diploma courses in the schools which lead to the diplomas of the Royal Colleges if he has passed the Matriculation Examination, which will admit him to the Degree course. That is my experience, and I am only giving you my experience. The Royal Colleges have no say in the granting of these degrees : it is a matter for each University, without interference of any sort from an outside body. A student who fails in the Matriculation, but passes the entrance examination recognised by the Colleges, can enter one of these Universities and work there for the examinations conducted by the Royal Colleges in London. And there is another way in which students enter for the Royal College Diplomas. The student who fails in his professional University examination frequently transfers to the Conjoint Board (that is, the Royal Colleges) examinations, and gets his diploma from them. But there is this peculiarly British anomaly : that in addition to the weak men going for the diplomas of the Royal Colleges, the strongest men also sit for the Royal Colleges' examinations. The reason is that it has become a tradition in this country that no man can obtain a post as honorary surgeon or physician respectively in any of the leading hospitals unless he has acquired the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons or the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians. Hence the position is hardly analogous to that in the architectural profession because there has been a complete break between the Royal Colleges and the Universities. This has been a gradual development in such Universities as those of Liverpool and Manchester : at first they were simply training schools for

the Royal Colleges, and then for the London University examinations, but later they acquired the power of themselves granting degrees. Then they split up and became separate Universities. Anyone acquainted with the histories of these schools will recognise the tremendous impetus to medical education in the whole country which has been given by attaining this independent position. Each centre has a vast pride in the instruction it gives, and the result obtained is a very different thing than results from merely training men to pass a set examination. The appointment of external examiners is a matter on which we, in the medical schools, have tried all sorts of experiments. At present, it is the universal practice not to appoint as examiners any men who are not actually engaged in teaching; because no man who is not in daily contact with students can fathom the depth of the ignorance of the ordinary student, nor the breadth of the particular kind of knowledge which a student can acquire as the result of teaching. Our decision is due to a longer experience than the architects have had. The needed understanding and sympathy between examiner and student can only be acquired by men actually engaged in teaching. I was much struck, in listening to Mr. Waterhouse's address, to hear his remarkable analogy between this Institute and a mother who is loth to give up her son although he is thirty years of age. It seems to me the normal course in human experience—and medicine, like architecture, is a human study, though we deal more intimately with human beings than you do—that by the time a man is thirty, he is surely fit to start a house of his own, and the interference of the parent, as in the case of the traditional mother-in-law, is not apt to make for either peace or a creditable record in the family which the son represents. It is generally recognised that a son who has launched out on his own account will do more for the family if he is freed from the apron-strings of his mother, and is allowed to develop, to apply in his own home the instruction which he has received from her.

Mr. MAURICE WEBB, M.C., D.S.O. [F.]: We all know Mr. Waterhouse to be an artist in words, and to-night has shown that he is something of a camouflage artist as well. If I may say so, with all deference, he has confused the Council of the Institute with the Board of Architectural Education, and tried to hide the latter under the cloak of the former. But his proposal to increase the scope of the Board meets with everybody's approval. It is essential, if the Institute is to keep its hold on architectural education, that the Board it appoints should be representative of every Society, University or School which is engaged in the work of architectural education. Mr. Waterhouse pointed out, and I think Professor Reilly rubbed it in, that the Institute started architectural education with its examinations. But, as Professor Reilly pointed out, those examinations were started in the late Victorian era. We should make the Board of Architectural Education something very much bigger than

merely an attempt to get men through the Institute examinations. The Council of the Institute can insist on what examinations it likes for its own members, but there should be insistence on an examination which is higher than the Institute examination. Things have changed since those examinations started. There were schools of architecture in 1847, but now there are London University, Liverpool University, Glasgow University, the Architectural Association, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield Universities, and naturally they want to have more voice than they at present have in the standards that are to be set. We have in London three flourishing architectural societies. There is the Society of Architects, who have their own examinations: there is a new Society of Official Architects, who, perhaps, will have their examinations if something is not done: and there is the Architects' Assistants' Professional Union which I think will be very important and will probably start their examinations. And the schools will probably, in time, start their own degrees. If the Board of Architectural Education could represent all these people, and ensure that no University gives a degree in architecture without passing the Board's examination, somewhat on the medical lines, we should be more representative, and perhaps the architectural societies would fall into line and accept that examination as qualifying for membership. After the Institute had formed this great architectural scheme and set it going, it could drop out, merely keeping a guiding eye on its proceedings. I think the Architectural Association has the only school which is run by architects for architects with no State aid—up to the present, though I gather from what Mr. Davies said, that it may probably come to get it: we shall be very grateful if that is so. And I think the State should be represented on this Board of Architectural Education.

Professor ARCH. C. DICKIE [J.]: I would like to add my thanks to Mr. Waterhouse. Everyone who has anything to do with architectural education will be pleased to hear the suggestions he has made to meet the difficulties which have arisen between the interests of the Institute and those interests which are more directly concerned with education. It seemed almost unnecessary to emphasise the value of office training, for no one will deny it. There is no clash between the studio and the office, since the one is complementary to the other. The Institute and educationalists alike are working in the cause of the well-being of architecture, with the aim to raise the standard even higher than we at present can conceive. When Mr. Waterhouse substituted the word "embrace" for "strangle hold," I could not help feeling that there are some embraces which squeeze the wind out of one. Those who have to contend with the long traditions of University procedure find quite enough difficulty in driving home the particular pin they wish to drive when pleading the cause of a department so comparatively new as that of architecture. The added affliction of a motherly embrace

which demands the filial dependence of early adolescence, is a drag from an inexcusable source. Having a lively appreciation of all the Institute has done, I should be very sorry if anything were to happen that would alienate the schools. Schools are now so strong, it is not inconceivable that, if they find this embrace too irksome, they might possibly cast it off definitely: this would, I believe, be a misfortune. When I went to the A.A. school some 28 years ago I was one of five day students. We kicked our heels throughout the day, waiting for the evening when our teachers would arrive. Now the day students of the school are numbered in their hundreds, and, in proportion, the same is true of other schools. We surely must modify our policy so that the methods may accord with the demands of such a growth, which every year is expanding. I wish the Institute to keep this in the fore-front, and to look back upon the conditions under which its examination system was originally formulated.

Mr. ALAN E. MUNBY [F.] said that it was the wish of members of the Science Standing Committee that a plea should be made for a greater measure of technical training in the education of the architect. Never was this matter so important as at the present time when new methods of construction and new materials were so much before us. He was quite aware that certain architects looked askance on anything technical, but it was absurd to suggest that interest in these matters was destructive of good artistic work, and he pointed out that in a modern building full of technicalities architects daily assumed great responsibilities. It might be said that the student's programme was full enough, but his reply was that the student must find time, and if necessary his course of training must be lengthened. This was no question of teaching elementary science, the public schools could do that, but we must tell them what we wanted and provide the practical course of instruction based on scientific principles as learnt at school. Mr. Munby cited the experience of the Architects' War Committee, and the great difficulty he and others had had in convincing Government Departments that architects had any knowledge of the technical side of building. He further gave instances in his own experience of the attitude adopted by directors of trade concerns towards architects as showing that the profession often lost work, and thus opportunities of good design, through lack of appreciation of the particular needs involved in the technique of many businesses. Referring to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, he stated that this body proposed to form a board to investigate materials and building problems, and that if this was to succeed it must have adequate support from the profession. The speaker concluded by thanking Mr. Waterhouse for his valuable paper, and expressing a hope that the Board of Architectural Education would seriously consider the necessity for greater encouragement in the matter of training in the scientific and practical

side of architectural work, which could only be adequately encouraged by examination requirements in sympathy with this view.

Mr. LIONEL B. BUDDEN, M.A. [I.], School of Architecture, University of Liverpool: I do not propose to add to the praise evoked by Mr. Waterhouse's very urbane paper. If the partial reforms which it foreshadows are carried into effect, under his Chairmanship of the Board of Architectural Education, it will, of course, be all to the good: and Mr. Waterhouse will deserve our sincerest congratulations. In the meantime, and at this present moment, it seems to me most profitable, and no doubt will be most in harmony with Mr. Waterhouse's own wishes, that we should critically examine the controversial issues which his paper raises. The first point I would take is the contention that the Institute, when in 1882 it established obligatory examinations, centralised and conducted in London, thereby really initiated systematic architectural education throughout the country. This claim will not survive a moment's scrutiny. If the Institute had accompanied the setting up of its centralised tests by regulations determining the methods of preparing for those tests, some sort of case might be made to support the argument. But the Institute did nothing of the kind. It left it open for candidates to prepare themselves, efficiently or inefficiently, in any way they pleased. It leaves it open for them to do so to-day. They may content themselves with office pupillage, or resort to instruction by correspondence, or go to technical classes in the evening. It is all one to the Institute, which simply maintains the obsolete practice of centralised examination—a practice that leaves absolutely untouched the real business of education and has no connection with it whatever. Mr. Waterhouse appears to be well satisfied with the position of the Institute and of the profession in general. I cannot share his satisfaction. Nor do I believe, can anyone who compares the insignificant power and prestige of our profession with the authority enjoyed by other bodies—by the medical profession in particular. The medical profession, as we all know, is the strongest, most efficient and most respected professional trade union in the country. On that ground alone, I claim that its constitution and system of education should commend themselves to our careful study. There is no reason why we should resign ourselves to a position of inferiority in the republic of the professions: and when we have such a splendid standard of accomplishment as is set before us by the medical profession, it is at least worth our while to examine the means whereby that standard was in the first place established and has ever since been maintained at a constantly higher level. We shall be better employed in doing so than in advocating the bolstering up of a bad tradition of our own that has led and can lead us nowhere. What is the basis of the prestige of the medical profession? The basis of that prestige is its system of education: and that system is itself founded on the Universities and involves using the Universities to their fullest extent. The phase

through which we are now passing was traversed by the medical profession in the 'forties and 'fifties of the last century when the change was made from apprenticeship and various forms of irregular training to scientific education under the auspices of the Universities. In 1858 the First Medical Act was passed by Parliament. By that Act there was established a General Council of Medical Education and Registration for the United Kingdom. The Council so formed was, and is to-day, composed of representatives of each of the Universities, of certain "Medical Corporations"—such as the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Surgeons, and of six persons nominated by the Crown on the advice of Privy Council. Under subsequent Medical Acts, new Universities, as they have come into existence, have been required to appoint representatives, so that the present membership of the Council is approximately thirty. From the first, you will observe, the representatives of the Medical Faculties of the Universities constituted the majority of the Council: the Universities were in effect recognised from the beginning as, either actually or potentially, the most efficient instruments of medical education. It was realised that on scientific training, scientific practice alone could rest. Medical education was, therefore, decentralised and delegated to the Universities and a few Medical Corporations. But some system of standardisation and control was obviously necessary, and the General Medical Council was entrusted with the statutory powers necessary for that purpose. By the regulations of the Council five years' training, under approved conditions, is to-day imposed as the minimum period of study required of all candidates before proceeding to the final examinations which qualify for practice. And to ensure the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of education, the Council sends "Inspectors" and "Visitors" to review and report independently on the equipment and courses of instruction provided by the Universities and Medical Corporation, and to attend the written and oral examinations held there. In the event of adverse reports being received, the Council has the power to suspend the qualifying authority of the institution concerned until the Council is satisfied that its requirements are being complied with. You will, I am sure, agree that there could not be a more effective or intelligent method of supervision and control, or one more likely to be justified in its results—as it unquestionably is. When we have this practically perfect model, why should we not follow it? If we had done so long ago, Mr. Waterhouse would not have attempted, as he has to-night, to blame the Government for its neglect of the Institute during the war. There would have been no pretext for doing so: the architectural profession would automatically have been called upon by the State to form an integral and essential part of the military services of the country, just as the medical profession was called upon. For there would have been a similar guarantee of competence and a similar prestige would have existed to enforce the claim. Mr. Waterhouse has said that there

is one "clamour" which he hopes will never be met—"the voice of those who desire that the Institute should abandon its interest in education and should hand the keys of entry to its own body over to other institutions." What individual or what party has ever proposed such a thing? I know of none, nor of any educational programme which could be construed as even implying anything of the sort. Certainly it is no part of the policy of those of us who wish to place architectural education on the same broad national foundation as that on which medical education rests. To suggest that such is our aim is to obscure the whole issue and to prejudice the prospect of reform. Not de-control but decentralisation through the most efficient instruments, under adequate supervision and safeguards, is what is advocated. I labour this point because I realise that it is one about which we cannot afford to have any misconception. The Institute must, under all conditions, remain master in its own house. That is not disputed for a moment: if it were, then the members of the Institute would rightly refuse to listen to any proposal which involved so subversive and unreasonable a principle. But nothing of the kind, as far as I am aware—and I have for some years been reading everything I could find in the professional press on architectural education—has ever been suggested. The idea appears to have no relation to the facts of the case: but it may not be the less fatally mischievous for all that: so I have been at some pains to emphasise its uneality. In the opinion of Mr. Waterhouse, "it does not matter where or how a man has been educated, so long as he knows." The subject may be one of indifference to Mr. Waterhouse, but, gentlemen, I submit that for the profession as a whole—its interests and reputation—it matters vitally where and how its members have been educated. It may be all very well for the individual to say, "I've had no regular scientific training, but I've picked things up in my varied experience, and I'm a clever fellow—and *I know*." That creed of cheerful anarchism cannot profitably be adopted by an entire profession, working under present-day conditions. The Institute must be able to give the same assurance of competent education in regard to its members as the British Medical Association can in regard to its own, before we can hope to secure the professional advantages—legal and otherwise—which should be ours. So long as the Institute cannot give that assurance, our position must remain what it is—weak. It may seem rather an obvious point to make, but there is a definite connection between education and facilities for education. Mr. Waterhouse has said, "the more schools the better, if they are all good." Agreed. And the best schools will be those which the Universities can ultimately develop. For it is the Universities which provide the greatest facilities. They can do so because, in the first place, they have the greatest prestige as educational institutions: their resources, actual or potential, in financial means, equipment, accommodation and staff, place them in a supreme position: they are able to provide, concentrated in one place,



expert instruction in all the subjects related to any particular subject : and they are uniquely adapted for specialised training—for carrying specialisation to its furthest development. If the word "academic" still arouses a faint hostility in some quarters, it is due to the survival of an old prejudice, and to ignorance of the character and activities of the modern Universities. For the reasons, then, which I have given, the encouragement of vigorous schools of architecture in the Universities should be the central feature of the Institute's educational policy. But, you may ask, "What is to be done about the Architectural Association School, numerically the largest in the country, and one of the most promising and well known?" I would suggest that the difficulty can be met by the school placing itself under the ægis of the University of London. It should be perfectly practicable to do this without any real loss of freedom. The University of London is so vast an organisation that it has been already obliged to duplicate many of its departments: there is thus ample precedent for such a course being taken in the case of architecture. The benefits that would accrue both to the Institute and to the A.A. School would be important. A big step would be taken toward the regularisation of architectural training on an academic basis, and competent students of the A.A. School would no longer be at a disadvantage in comparison with those attending University Schools: they also would be eligible to receive a degree in Architecture, a qualification which they are at present unable to obtain. I would in conclusion just make one further point. Mr. Waterhouse has compared architectural education in its present stage to a growing boy who is simply suffering from growing pains. If, however, these pains are not to develop into cramp and from cramp into paralysis, the right remedies must be applied before it is too late. Those remedies I have endeavoured to indicate.

The PRESIDENT: We have had several extremely able speeches very much to the point, and very practical, all contributing to a very valuable debate. In putting the vote of thanks I should like to congratulate the Institute on its admirable Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education (Applause). I do not think we need take the gloomy, though moderately expressed, view of our system of education which Mr. Budden seems to hold. He evidently thinks we are in a bad way. We must not forget, however, that the school is not the important thing: the school is a means, not the end: and the danger in regard to those whose business it is to teach is that they get so keen on teaching. I do not like the term "academic," any more than Mr. Budden does, and I do not think it very applicable; we in London are certainly not academic, and our own Royal Academy is as unacademic as it can be. You will remember Samuel Butler's *Colleges of Urrason*, where hypothetic teaching was taken to its utmost limit. To imagine a set of utterly strange and impossible contingencies was the duty of the examiners, and they required youths to give intelligent answers to the questions arising therefrom. And that

was reckoned the best way of preparing them for their conduct in after life. That is a hit at examiners too. We do not like examiners altogether, any more than we like teachers altogether. But school is not the important thing: it is practice that is the important thing, and the nearer we can get our schools and teaching into contact with the men in actual practice—they may not all have their time entirely filled, but at any rate they have all had a good many years in practice—the nearer they can be in touch with those men the better: because, to borrow another phrase from Samuel Butler, "an art can only be learned in the workshop of those who are winning their bread by it."

Mr. WATERHOUSE (in reply): Nothing could induce me, Sir, to make a speech at this hour. There are a great many things which have been said that I would like to reply to, many for which I should like to give thanks, and one or two in regard to which I would like to controvert fallacies, fallacies which I should have thought would have been evident to the speakers. But there is one thing I would like to say. I read my Paper with a view of provoking discussion, and I am amply satisfied with the most interesting set of conversations which have gone through this evening. And I have another thing to say, in conclusion, which will be a comfort to Mr. Budden. He must remember that the feeling is that the elderly gentlemen who run this Institute are out of touch with education, and the younger people know very much better. There would be something very wrong with this architectural world of ours if this were not the case. It is always the duty of the young man to know more than the old, because they have got the experience of the old to go upon. And I have one more word of comfort for Mr. Budden, and that is that the Council of the next generation will be filled with gentlemen who have been educated entirely on the lines which he suggests.

Mr. W. S. PURCHON, M.A. [J.] (Sheffield University), sends the following contribution to the discussion:—

The Institute takes a step in the right direction each time it grants a measure of exemption from its own examinations.

Mr. Waterhouse says: "Learning is a more important thing than teaching." More vital, however, is it for us to realise that training is vastly more important than examinations. To an excessively thin person, putting on flesh is similarly, more important than the process of getting weighed.

And each degree of exemption, as it is granted, acts as an impetus to real training. This was certainly the case when the Institute wisely adopted the principle of accepting the certificate of "recognised" schools in lieu of its own Intermediate Examination, for this course clearly encouraged sound training. An equally important step was the abandonment of the Preliminary Examination in its old form, for the new scheme



encourages the student to take a normal course of secondary education. Very little importance seems to have been attached to the making of this fundamental change, and a visitor to the Institute on 21st February might well have been forgiven if he had gone away under the impression that the Institute is still running its Preliminary Examination on the old lines.

Exemption from the whole of the Final could really be granted, under the adequate safeguards which have been devised, without any fear of standard lowering: as a matter of fact, the probable result would be a raising of standard. In any case, the suggested partial exemption from the Final can only do good.

Mr. Waterhouse mentioned two ways in which the teachers shorten or facilitate the "process of absorption." There is a third, and it is, perhaps, the most important. In the old system great waste of time and effort resulted from the studying of subjects in the wrong order, and, in many cases, as isolated units. With a proper system of teaching, the subjects are not only taken in proper sequence, but are related to each other as parts of a definite scheme. Partial or total exemption from the Final granted to students who have successfully completed an adequately advanced course of training will, of course, encourage the proper co-ordination of subjects to a higher level.

It is sometimes urged that harm will be done by keeping the students in the schools for a longer period than three years. It is by no means proved that this would be the case—it does not seem to have harmed medical students; and, anyhow, the fourth and fifth years might be spent—as they are already in at least one example—partly in the schools and partly in offices.

The analogy with medical training may not be perfect, but it is at least useful, and the Institute was fortunate in the presence of Dr. Elliot Smith at the discussion. This subject has frequently been raised at more formal meetings, but it would be sound policy to have the fullest details of medical training and examination methods before us.

While we may not agree that examinations can only be fairly conducted by professional teachers, it must at least be admitted that teaching experience should not be looked upon as a disqualification for examinership. Many a time have the examination papers of the Institute shown clearly the need of help from men who are accustomed to systematic methods of training.

Mr. Waterhouse's penultimate paragraph is, of course, extremely important. If the "writing off of architects as negligible incompetents" was solely due to misconception on the part of non-architects, then all we need, presumably, is some form of propaganda work. If, on the other hand, it is in any degree due to our own fault, then obviously we should be wise to acknowledge the fact—at all events to ourselves—and strive to put our house in order. And while it is doubtless true that University control of examina-

tions would not save the situation, it is very probable indeed that further encouragement given to the schools on the lines suggested would do much good.

Perhaps the greatest need in architectural education at the present time is the co-ordination of advanced studies in Design and Construction. There is an unfortunate and dangerous tendency for the two to diverge. Granting exemption from a part at least of the Final to students who successfully complete a "recognised" course of Final level is the soundest possible way of bringing together these two major portions of the unit known as Architecture.

W. S. PURCHON [A.].

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## THE ROME SCHOLARSHIPS EXHIBITION.

THIS, the third in the series of exhibitions held at the Grafton Galleries since the foundation of the Rome Scholarships in 1913, has been separated from its predecessor by a gap of five years—a circumstance which gives to it from every point of view an added interest.

The work shown in the architectural section, like that in the sections devoted to sculpture and decorative painting, falls into two groups—the drawings and studies made by Scholars of the British School at Rome, and the designs submitted by candidates for admission to the final round of this year's competition for the Rome Scholarship and for the Henry Jarvis Studentship in Architecture.\*

Of the three exhibitors in the first group—Mr. H. C. Bradshaw, Mr. L. de Soissons and Mr. P. D. Hepworth—Mr. Bradshaw (First Rome Scholar in Architecture 1913: Liverpool University School) presents not only the most extensive and varied selection of work but the most brilliant. In quantity and range his output is impressive: in quality it is unique. His "Fragments from the Antique," his studies of the Villa di Papa Giulio, his restoration of an Etruscan temple and his great plan of Rome at the time of Constantine are models of accurate scholarship and accomplished presentation. He shows also a number of entirely exquisite water-colour sketches. But his most remarkable drawings—the ones which really give to the architectural rooms their supreme distinction—are the set of eight devoted to a restoration of the town of Praeneste at the end of the First Century A.D. Praeneste (the modern Palaestrina), some twenty miles east of Rome, is magnificently placed on the slope of a hill overlooking the Campagna: and the ruins of the Temple of Fortune, its famous shrine, and of the great terraces and ramps, the formal open reservoirs and colonnades constitute an ideal subject for restoration. It has attracted archæologists and architects

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\* The Rome Scholarship in Architecture is now of the annual value of £250, is tenable for three years, and is open to British subjects under the age of thirty. (For this year only, the age limit was extended to thirty-five.) The Henry Jarvis Studentship, offered for annual competition by the Royal Institute of British Architects, is open to Students and Associates of the R.I.B.A. and is of the value of £200 per annum and tenable for two years at the British School at Rome.

from the time of Julian di San Gallo up to the present day. A large number of partial surveys and tentative restorations have been made by Italian, French, German, American and English authorities. Some of these, a very few, are reliable as far as they go: most are imaginative exercises carried out with an unscrupulous disregard and distortion of the actual data. Mr. Bradshaw, in the conscientious spirit of modern scientific archaeology, has based his restoration on a careful survey of the site and on the results of prolonged research into all the evidence available. His conclusions are embodied in a series of studies—two “*Etats actuels*,” restored plans, sections, elevations and an aerial perspective—that, from the purely technical aspect of presentation, will more than bear comparison with the best productions of the French school: whilst, regarded as a contribution to the particular subject of research, the work is the most solid and important yet produced.\* Incidentally the achievement exemplifies in a very striking manner the greatness of the opportunities open to a Rome Scholar in Architecture if he has the ability and energy to use them.

Mr. de Soissons (Jarvis Student, 1913: Beaux-Arts) exhibits a number of *projets* done at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts during part of his tenure of the Jarvis Studentship. They are all highly competent in plan and skilfully rendered. In elevational detail they are less satisfactory: but Mr. de Soissons reveals such obvious ability that this last defect is probably less his fault than the fault of the Beaux-Arts tradition, which has now for many years inculcated an enthusiasm for the pure ideal of the plan and its presentation, to the exclusion of almost everything else—except mathematics.

Mr. P. D. Hepworth (Rome Scholar, 1914: Beaux-Arts) is represented only by work done in collaboration with Mr. de Soissons—measured drawings of Genoese palaces. The buildings chosen are dull: and the collaborators appear to have been aware of the fact: and to have been unable to mitigate it.

Much of the work forming the second group in the architectural section of the exhibition is of great merit. The designs submitted for admission to the final round of this year's competition are indeed in some cases remarkably mature. The subject, “a Courts of Justice” (originally set in 1914), provides, under the conditions of the competition, reasonable scope for skilful planning and for composition on a big scale. And a number of the competitors rise to the occasion. Three out of the five selected for the final round come from the Liverpool University School—Mr. E. R. Arthur, Mr. W. Dougill and Mr. F. O. Lawrence. The plans of all three, and of the first two in particular, are sound and straightforward and adequately meet the requirements of the programme. Mr. Arthur's composition is French in type, Mr. Dougill's American. Both are

well rendered in monochrome. Mr. Lawrence has developed his design on *néo-Grec* lines. His main mass, the “Salle des Pas Perdus,” is over-ponderous in relation to the rest of the composition; but his detail shows much resource and is excellently drawn.

Mr. A. Koerner and Mr. D. W. Thomas are the two other selected candidates. The nature and technical treatment of the former's plan indicate unmistakably a Beaux-Arts training. It is a thoroughly competent plan, efficiently presented: and as much may be said for the sections. But the elevational treatment suffers from a straining after false logic in expression, so that the principal façade misses entirely the character proper to a courts of justice and is chiefly reminiscent of the grand entrance to a railway terminal.

Mr. Thomas probably owes his position in the main to his handling of the programme on plan. His arrangement is direct and workable. The grasp which it reveals of the imaginative possibilities of the subject is not, unfortunately, sustained in the elevations. These are rather lifeless and commonplace.

For the rest, one may say that the assessors could not have had any great difficulty in coming to their decisions. Though in the rejected work one discovers frequent signs of considerable merit, there is nothing really comparable in quality to the performance of the selected candidates.

LIONEL B. BUDDEN [A.].

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### Organisation for the Middle Classes.

*The Middle Classes Union,  
General Buildings, Aldwych, W.C.2: 27 Feb. 1920.*

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—The Royal Institute of British Architects forms one of the bodies of the professional and administrative classes which, officially as a society or unofficially through the action of its individual members, would both benefit and be benefited by the Middle Classes Union through closer association with the Union. There is a strong movement on the part of political Labour at the present time toward the capture of the professional and administrative workers of the country; but no matter what may be the success of this movement the political Labour Party will work for its majority, as is only right. Admittedly such professional workers as succumb to the temptation to join forces with Labour will remain a minority, and where their interests in any way conflict with those of the manual workers it is the intention of the political Labour leaders that the latter should be considered at the expense of the former.

The administrative and professional classes should form a nucleus for the unorganised portion of the community which is commonly known as the middle classes, and if all the members of this class were organised separately from Labour in defence of their own interests they would form a body at least as strong numerically as the present Labour Party, for

\* Mr. Bradshaw's thesis on Praeneste illustrated by the drawings on exhibition and by many others, together with photographs, will shortly be published.

organised Labour does not by any means represent half the population of the country, and the class of capitalists, pure and simple, is a very small one.

If the middle classes organise in any way, surely it is better that they should organise themselves independently, rather than clog their organisation with even the moderate men of the party that has never considered their interests in seeking its own, but has penalised them in every dispute with capital, until the statement that the middle classes form the grist between the upper and nether millstones has become a very painful truth.

The M.C.U. provides an organisation by means of which the professional and administrative classes of the country may combine independently of any existing political party in defence of their own interests. The combination of the middle classes into one whole is a necessity, and the inclusion in the ranks of the Middle Classes Union of such men as compose your membership would prove a valuable addition to the Union, which is already making itself felt as a stabilising factor in national affairs and a guardian of what may be summarised in the phrase “the middle interests.”—Yours faithfully,

STANLEY ABBOTT, *General Secretary*,

“ Dividing the Profession.”

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR,—If Mr. Maurice B. Adams had taken the trouble to ascertain the facts before writing his letter of the 11th inst. he would have saved me the trouble of referring to some old papers. He commences his letter with a reference to the Memorial published by the R.I.B.A. about 16 years ago, and states that “a special commission of a thoroughly representative character was appointed” and “held a lengthened enquiry.” The following are the facts:—

1. No official was on the Committee, and no enquiry was made of any official or of any authority employing an official.
2. The Committee minutes show that the Committee only met twice.
3. Once they sat for an hour and a half.
4. The other time they sat for an hour and three-quarters.
5. Five members attended one meeting.
6. Four members attended the other meeting.

I think it best to make no comments!—Yours obediently.

24th February, 1920.

SYDNEY PERKS [F.].

*Lex Chambers, Parry Road, Smith Street,  
Durban, Natal: 20th January, 1920.*

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Having read the letter from Mr. Maurice Adams [F.], which you printed in the JOURNAL for 20th December, 1919, I feel that my position as an Associate of 17 years' standing requires defence. Mr. Adams expresses the opinion that the chronic failure

of Associates to seek the distinction of Fellowship is unfair and unfortunate. Viewed from another aspect the case may appear somewhat different, and I should like to put it from the view-point of an Associate in one of the Dominions.

The practice of the Institute of conferring Fellowship upon members of the profession outside the Institute without making thorough enquiries as to the applicants' qualifications has caused some to hold the opinion that Associateship is to be sought after rather than Fellowship, indicating as it does that the member has been elected only after proving his qualifications by examination. It may be said that Fellowship is given only when satisfactory evidence has been obtained as to the applicant's qualifications, but I feel very strongly that, in cases outside the British Isles, opinion from local members should be obtained and is necessary as evidence. This has not always been done. For my own part I consider Associateship the more to be desired, and have no intention whatever of applying for the “distinction of Fellowship.”

The appointment of Licentiates without qualifications is another story, and not a very elevating one, and to the average layman I venture to suggest that F.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.B.A. and Licentiate R.I.B.A. all carry equal weight. This practice, in my opinion, undoubtedly lowers the value of membership of the Institute, and if the intention of some 25 years ago had been carried out of making the Institute examinations the *only* means of acquiring membership, first as an Associate and subsequently as a Fellow if considered by the Council as fit for the position, there is no doubt that by now Fellowship would have been very much more sought after than is the case.—Yours faithfully,

EDWIN O. PAYNE [A.].

[Mr. Payne will find that under Clause 2 of the Supplemental Charter, which has been in operation since the draft was first settled in 1908, all candidates for Fellowship must have passed a qualifying examination. Since that date the Fellowship has been open exclusively (1) to Associates, (2) to candidates who have qualified for Associateship, and (3) to Licentiates who have passed the prescribed examination. As regards Licentiates the class is a temporary one, created to further the Registration scheme adopted by the Institute just before the outbreak of war. Election to it ceased eight years ago. All the candidates were practising architects, whose *bona fides* were in each case vouched for by three members of the Institute. Brought under the control of the Institute and made amenable to its discipline, it is felt that the profession generally has benefited by their admission. Many of them have passed the tests set them and have become Fellows. Not a few hold high position in the profession and are doing good work on its behalf. Touching another point made by Mr. Payne, it has often been suggested to Associates

who are eligible that they should proceed to the Fellowship. Such a step, it is contended, would benefit themselves as well as the Institute. The people who count—that is to say, the people who build—are well aware of the distinctions of grade among members of professional bodies. Not only the regulations and registers are accessible to them, but they learn from the many reference books now published that Fellows must have been seven years in independent practice before they can attain that grade. A man proposing to build, and ignorant of the capabilities of architects he intends to consult, is not unlikely to give his preference to a Fellow whose status in the Institute is evidence that he has proved his capacity to the satisfaction of his peers. He might even imagine, in his innocence, that the higher status had been withheld from the Associate because of his inability to give such satisfaction. The present writer recalls that Mr. A. B., a Fellow of about six weeks' standing and scarcely more than thirty-one years of age, was recently appointed architect to a public company in preference to Mr. C. D., an Associate senior in age and practice to his competitor, a condition of the appointment being that the architect selected must be a Fellow of the Institute.—ED.]

#### The Artists' Guild.

33 Palace Street, Westminster 21 Feb., 1920.  
To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

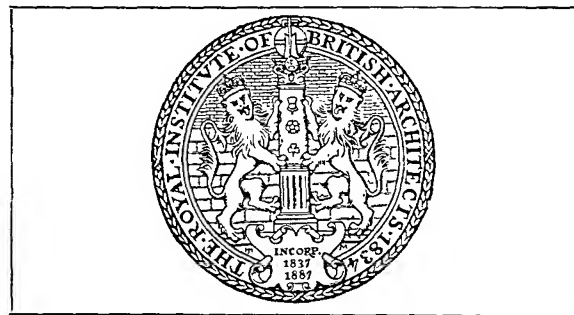
SIR.—Will you be so kind as to allow me space to call attention to a meeting which is being held by the above Guild on Saturday, 20th March, at 3 p.m., in the Small Hall, Church House, Westminster. All men and women whose main occupation is in some branch of art are cordially invited.

The Guild, which is at present little known amongst artists, was founded in 1912, when the Bishop of Winchester consented to become President. It has for its objects the uniting in a common society those artists who believe in the Christian religion, and who find in it an inspiration for their life, and for their art which is their life's work. The meeting is being held to make the Guild more widely known among artists of all kinds. Bishop Gore has kindly promised to take the chair, and the following are among those who have kindly consented to address the meeting: H. Walford Davies, Esq., Mus. Doc., LL.D.; Walter Ford, Esq.; and Professor Beresford Pite. Full particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Miss Ethel Henry Bird, 31 Stratford Road, Kensington, W.8.—Yours, etc.,

A. B. KNAPP-FISHER.

#### The Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem [pp. 151, 175].

Professor LETHABY [F.], writes:—"I do not wish to say any more until some more facts are put on record. I am a little amazed that Strzygowski, who is the best-known authority on Eastern Christian Art in the world, should be ignored and pushed aside like that."



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 6th March 1920

### CHRONICLE.

#### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

The following further names missing from the original list [see JOURNAL for 10th January] have been kindly notified:—

DAVIES, WILLIAM EDWARD. 2nd Lieut., 5th Cheshire Regt. [*Student*]. Killed in action.

MACPHERSON, ARCHIBALD AUSTIN. Lieut., R.E. [*Student*], son of Mr. Archibald Macpherson [F.], of Edinburgh. Wounded at Arras, 25th May, 1918, and died the following day.

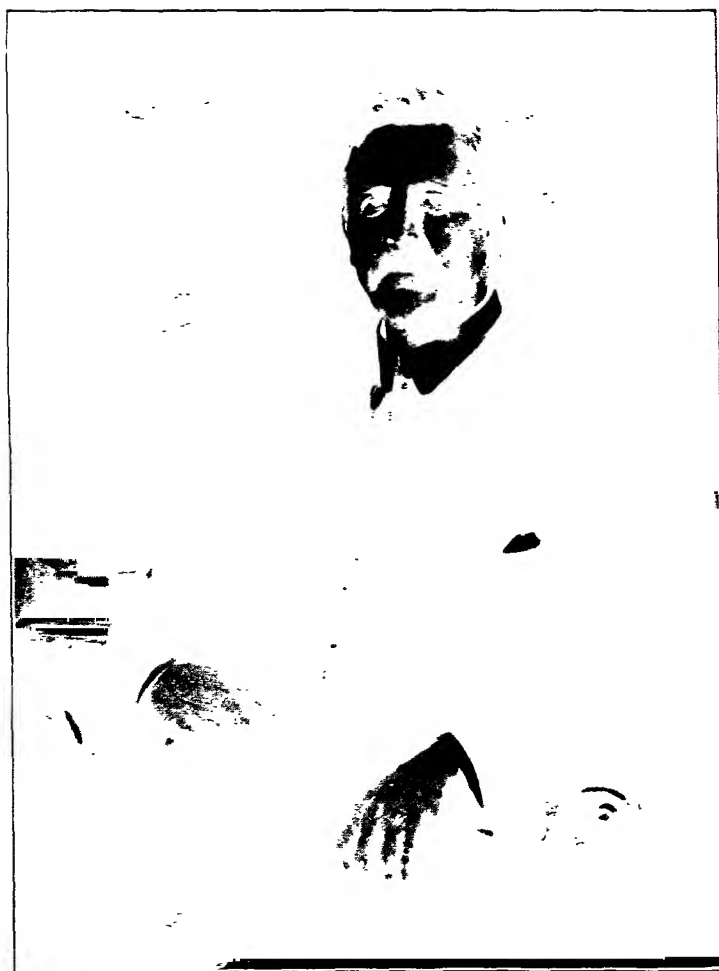
SCOTT, NOEL EDMUND. 2nd Lieut., R.E. Died of wounds received in action, 20th September, 1917.

#### Presentation of Mr. Hare's Portrait.

The unveiling and formal presentation to the Institute of the portrait of Mr. Henry T. Hare, *President* 1917-19, took place at the Special General Meeting held on the 23rd February. The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. Mr. Hare, who was present with his wife and daughter, had been among the special guests at the Council Dinner that evening. The portrait—a speaking likeness, as will be seen from the reproduction in the present issue—was painted by Sir Wm. Llewellyn, A.R.A., and is to be exhibited in the Royal Academy this year.

Mr. Hare was President during a time of extreme difficulty and anxiety. Never, perhaps, in the history of the Institute have the affairs of the profession made so great a demand on the time and energies of the President. In July, 1917, when Mr. Hare succeeded to the Chair, the end of the war was far distant, but the problems of the reconstruction of industry and the housing of the workers at the restoration of peace had begun to exercise the mind of the Government. Mr. Hare took the initiative in forming a Committee of members of the Institute and the Allied Societies to consider the whole question of housing from the architect's point of view, and he lost no opportunity, by means of deputations and written communications, of pressing upon the Government and local authorities throughout the country the desirability in the interests of the community of employing competent architects and giving them a





HENRY T. HARE, *President R.I.B.A. 1917-19.*

From the portrait painted for the Institute by Sir Win. Leighton, A.R.A.

free hand in the design of the houses and the lay-out of the sites. He was a member of the Government Committee formed to discuss this question, together with those of building construction and materials, and at various times he attended as a witness and gave evidence before the Ministry of Reconstruction. He bore the lion's share of the work of organising and adjudicating upon the National Housing Competition, when 686 designs had to be dealt with in the London area alone. To him fell the task of the preparation of an exhaustive report to the Government on the result of the competition, the report being supplemented with practical suggestions as to the best means of solving the many problems involved. He was Chairman of the Committee charged with the production of the book of Cottage Designs published by the Institute at the request of the Local Government Board. He brought about the Conference of representatives of architects, surveyors and builders to assist, by their suggestions, the authorities in restarting the building and kindred industries on the conclusion of peace. He was Chairman of the Conference of representatives of the Institute and Allied Societies, the purpose of which was to consider ways and means of raising the status of architects and improving the relations of the provincial societies with the parent body in London. Two of the meetings were held in Manchester and Birmingham, and Mr. Hare presided on each occasion. He initiated the movement for reform in the Law of Ancient Lights, the Bill for which, together with a long and reasoned memorandum on the subject drawn up by Mr. Hare, is now under consideration by the Lord Chancellor. The records of the Institute show that Mr. Hare, during his term as President, took the Chair at over 150 meetings and other functions connected with the Institute. His tact, his foresight, his sagacity and soundness of judgment, his evenness of temper and invariable good-humour, made him an ideal Chairman, and these qualities served the profession in good stead on the various occasions when he was brought into personal contact with members of the Government and heads of Government Departments. As the present President once observed, it was a characteristic of Mr. Hare that he had on every occasion a very clear idea in his own mind of what ought to be said, and he never failed to use exactly the words that were best fitted to convey it.

Mr. Arthur Keen, *Hon. Secretary*, prior to unveiling the portrait, addressed the meeting as follows:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—This Institute is the possessor of a very large number of treasures of a rather notable kind, mostly hidden away in cupboards and drawers very seldom seeing the light of day. But the treasures that we set the greatest store by are hung on the walls of our Common Room for everyone to inspect—our family portraits extending, in an ever-increasing line, round the walls of that room. They are painted by good men who had exceeding good subjects for the exercise of their skill, and they are

works of art of no mean order. We value them very highly in that respect. But the main interest that they possess for us lies in the fact that they record for us, and recall to us, men of whose work in their profession we are justly proud, and for whose work on behalf of this Institute, carried out sometimes in circumstances of the greatest perplexity and difficulty, I trust we are properly grateful. These men served us well; and they devoted abilities of quite an exceptional order to building up an organisation which—all criticism notwithstanding—does at the present time possess dignity and authority and power. To-night we are adding another picture to our collection, the portrait of our immediate Past-President, Mr. Henry T. Hare. It was not until comparatively recently that I have known Mr. Hare personally. I think the first real insight I got into his capacity and quality was when I became aware of the award that he had given in a competition of some importance in which he had been assessor, and I was profoundly struck with the simplicity and directness, combined with a certain sense of authority, that there was in this award. My second insight was when he won a competition in which I myself took part. It was a very complex and difficult problem which was put before us, as I know very well; but Mr. Hare solved it with a scheme which was so extraordinarily simple and direct that it seemed to be the only, the obvious way of meeting the problem and solving the difficulty. But, of course, one knows something of these "simple" and "obvious" plans, of the patient and laborious steps by which, commonly, they are approached. I think there are many people who imagine Mr. Hare as one who soared quite suddenly and immediately into unquestioned success. He had his successes, but he has also had his disappointments, as most of us have had; and I think he could tell us himself, if he wished to, of long nights and laborious days spent in unrequited toil before he achieved the success which was ultimately his. When I came to know him personally, I realised that it was not alone by outstanding skill in the exercise of his professional work that he had achieved success, but also by a kind of indefinable winningness, may I say, of disposition, a sense of good nature and kindness, combined with extraordinary directness of judgment and power of expression that, I know, gave confidence to those who sought his guidance. No doubt that helped him materially in the success which he ultimately achieved. Certainly he has won his way into our esteem, and even into our affection; we have the greatest regard for him. But we do not appoint Presidents here from considerations of esteem and affection; we appoint them upon their professional record, upon their initiative and driving power, and on their capacity to represent, in an adequate way, the interests that are far too serious to be lightly entrusted to anyone's hands. Mr. Hare was extremely well qualified to accept the office of President, and he has not disappointed us in any way. The only thing that



I regret in connection with his term of office is that it came at such an extraordinarily "dead" time—just in the closing years of the Great War. All of us were, as architects, out of work and we had very little to think about, very little to care about, except the main subject, that of winning the war, and helping, as far as we were able to help—though it was only in small measure—the young men who were out at the Front carving out the practical work of winning the war. And in that matter Mr. Hare gave the most valuable work and assistance. It has so happened that Mr. Hare's work has lain mostly—at any rate, to a very large extent—in the arena of competition work; and it is due in no small measure to his energies, his activities, his work and his influence in this direction, that the whole system of competitions in this country has been lifted on to an entirely new footing. And at length promoters of these competitions have come to realise and to accept their responsibilities towards those who take part in these competitions. This is not the time to dwell upon it at any length; but it is a most important thing to the profession—not merely to the members of this Institute—but to the whole profession of the country. The matter is important to the public as well, because safeguarded as the whole system is at the present time, no architect need feel any hesitation about entering a large public competition from the fear that there will be any irregularity in the conduct of it or any unfair influence in the distribution of the premiums. And the public, of course, reap the benefit of this in no small measure, by reason of the fact that they get the services of the best men when they are intending to put up an important building. In the old days, before things were put on their present basis, it was often very difficult to get men of the highest standing to take part. I might speak of Mr. Hare's work at the Architectural Association, of which he was one of the most worthy and respected Presidents. His work in that respect is well known to most of you in this room. The only thing I wish to speak of emphatically at the moment is the question of public libraries. There are certain things in the modern architectural history of this country that, to my mind, have been extremely well done. One of them, of course, is domestic architecture of the past fifty years or so. Another thing is the churches which were built in the period of the Gothic Revival. Another is the London Board schools, at any rate the earlier of them—those which were carried out under Robson, Stevenson, and others of distinguished ability. Another is our public libraries. The Public Libraries Act is not so very old. At first there were very few architects who realised what was expected in connection with it. Mr. Hare applied himself with singular vigour to the problem, and it was he who established the standard of the public library. When you go into a public library at the present time it seems quite an obvious sort of building; but at the outset it was very difficult to know what was required; what rooms there should be; what their relationship should

be to each other, what books, if any, should be stored, how the public should have access to the books, how they should be arranged, and so forth; all questions of lighting, supervision and control. These matters were not then known, and it was Mr. Hare who explored them most successfully, and showed others how these things should be done. And I think you will agree with me that the average public library is a building we have every reason to be proud of, at all events not ashamed of. And, as everyone here probably knows, Mr. Hare has built a very large proportion of the libraries of this country. However, I do not want to embarrass him by saying too much in his presence; he is a modest man, and, as I said, his work is probably better known to you than it is to me, in many respects. But the duty which has been relegated to me this evening is to unveil this portrait, and I have to ask you, Mr. President, if you will formally accept it on behalf of the Institute; and I hope you will consider, as I think most of us will, that it is a worthy portrait of a very worthy man (applause).

Mr. HARE, who rose at the instance of the President, said: I must confess, Sir, that Mr. Keen has somewhat embarrassed me by the extremely flattering account he has given of my career and abilities. I had no idea, until I heard what he said, that I had done so much. But there is really not very much for me to say, except this: that I think I have been a continuous member of the Council of this Institute for something over 25 years; and I have come to regard the Institute as, more or less, a kind of second home. The interests of the Institute have always held an important place in my thoughts and ideas, as I have always believed that the influence and activities of the Institute were for the benefit of the profession and for the benefit of architecture. Looking back over that long period of time, I feel that the Institute has accomplished a very great deal for architecture and for architects. The profession holds at the present day, I believe, a very different position in the esteem of the public from what it did twenty-five years ago. And the actual practice of architecture, I am sure, has never been at a higher level in this country than at the present day (hear, hear). It seems to me there is every prospect of the progress which has taken place during those years being continued; and I have not the least hesitation in saying that, in the hands of the present President, the interests of architecture will certainly be promoted. I think we were very fortunate in procuring the services of our present President, Mr. Simpson (applause), who has been known to all architects for a great many years, and is universally respected as one of the most ideal exponents of the art. With regard to myself, I need hardly say that I appreciate very much the honour of my portrait taking its place among that great collection which we have in the other room, and which have been contributed by the famous artists of the day. One of the greatest pleasures that I have had in submitting myself to be portrayed in this way has

been that I have made the acquaintance of Sir William Llewellyn, the distinguished artist who kindly consented to paint the portrait. I suppose there is no public body which has a more magnificent collection of portraits than the Institute has; and they are worthy of being housed in a manner befitting their value. The present premises of the Institute are not what one would wish in that respect, and I hope that the Institute will consider that question, when opportunity arises. I should like to thank the members of the Council and of the Institute for the consideration and support they have always given me during the many years that I have been a member of the Council, and to say that I feel most deeply that whatever I may have been able to do for the Institute could not have been done at all if I had not had the help and support of my colleagues on all occasions when it was needed.

The PRESIDENT. Ladies and gentlemen, there falls to me to-night, as President, the very pleasant duty of accepting this portrait of our old friend and Past President, Mr. Hare, on behalf of the Royal Institute. I will not attempt to "gild the hly" by adding to Mr. Keen's graceful speech; but those of us who formed part of Mr. Hare's Council know with what simple conscientiousness he filled his duties. He was eminently a common-sense President, and I know no one to whom the ancient tag is more applicable, "Mens sana in corpore sano." We should be glad to have any portrait of Mr. Hare; and we have had it presented to us as a beautiful picture, which we should be proud to possess, whether it was the portrait of Mr. Hare or anybody else. I congratulate Sir William Llewellyn on having achieved another success (hear, hear), a success which renders the picture valuable and desirable to us on its merit, as well as on account of the souvenir it preserves to us. I think the work must have given Sir William Llewellyn as much pleasure to carry out as it gives us to receive it; and I thank him, on behalf of the Royal Institute, for the loving labour that he has bestowed upon it. We can assure him that this portrait of Mr. Hare will be one of our most highly prized treasures: a picture worthy to take its place by the side of the portraits by Sargent and other great painters, his contemporaries,

that the volume of facts he had still to pour out would occupy at least another week. Mr. Hambidge won the sympathies of his audience at the outset by the warm tribute of admiration and respect he paid for the work of Mr. Penrose at the Parthenon. It had taken a German, he said, to say of Penrose that he was the "Pearl of Archaeological Research." Mr. Hambidge left London for Paris on the morning after his lecture, and after a brief stay there sailed for New York.

#### Cranmore Incised Lacquer Work.

On view for a few days in the Institute Galleries are specimens of some pleasing decorative work based on Chinese incised lacquer, commonly known as coromandel work, which has been developed by two disabled soldiers working at Cranmore Hall, Shepton Mallet, under the direction of Sir Richard Paget, Bart. (*Hon. A.*) Describing the work, Sir Richard says that the process differs from the typical Chinese work in that the incision is done not in a surface of fibrous plaster or jesso lacquered over to look like wood, but on an actual surface of wood. This modification has the advantage of producing a more durable product, since under certain climatic conditions the plaster or jesso surface is liable to shale off, and the incised surface of wood forms a more substantial framing for the inserted lacquer. On the other hand, the process of incision in the wood is necessarily slower than that of incision in plaster. The process of application of the lacquer also differs from the Chinese or Japanese in that the lacquer is applied hot. The new process is, in fact, more analogous to champlevé enamel, substituting wood for metal and a fusible lacquer for glass enamel. The process lends itself to the use of bright colours, including silver and gold, and to a wide range of tints and treatment. The resultant product is highly durable and resistant to wear-and-tear and moisture. The lacquer is capable of standing a temperature far above the boiling-point of water without decomposition, though, being applied with heat, it will, of course, soften with heat. It is suggested that the process would be particularly applicable to panels for church decoration and to memorial tablets and the like, subject to this limitation, that it is not at present practicable to deal with single panels larger than 20 inches by 60 inches.

One of the samples shown is the Shepton Mallet Grammar School Memorial Tablet, measuring 4 feet 6 inches by 2 feet, designed by Sir Richard Paget, and consisting of the School's Roll of Honour—each name occupying a line, cut in fine clear lettering of the De Vinne character—surmounted by the arms of the School. The process is admirably adapted for such work. The actual cost of this tablet, including all overhead charges, was £84, and it could therefore be sold at £100, with a profit of £16.

It has been arranged that all divisible profits are to be shared equally between employer and employees. The work at present exhibited represents the result of six to nine months' training of men previously

#### Mr. Jay Hambidge's Lecture.

Publication of Mr. Jay Hambidge's Lecture on Greek Design, delivered at the Special General Meeting of the 23rd February, is deferred pending the receipt of illustrative diagrams which the lecturer has kindly promised to send. The lecture was an exceedingly interesting one, and though it took nearly two hours in delivery it was evident at its close that the lecturer had done little more than skirt the fringe of his subject. Sir Cecil Smith (who proposed the vote of thanks) told the meeting that he had known Mr. Hambidge fourteen years and that he had been talking on this matter ever since; he assured them that Mr. Hambidge had hardly begun his task that evening.

employed in the electrical industry and having no experience of artistic work. Additional men could be trained if sufficient orders for work were forthcoming. Sir Richard Paget is to be warmly congratulated on the happy results so speedily achieved. The undertaking deserves every encouragement.

#### Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings : Repair of Old Cottages.

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings recently issued a report advocating the repair of old cottages, and offering to do such work for the sum of £150 or thereabouts, rather than that they should be destroyed. A copy of the report was sent to the Minister of Health, who has replied that it should prove very helpful, and adds :—

" At the present time it is obviously very desirable that all reasonable measures should be taken to put into proper condition cottages which are out of repair ; and also that those cottages which are not up to modern standards of accommodation should not be destroyed, unless beyond repair, but be reconstructed so as to comply with those standards where this can be done at a reasonable cost.

" Dr. Addison sympathises with the desire to prevent the thoughtless destruction of substantial cottages which can be made good at comparatively moderate cost and at the same time be brought up to modern requirements, especially those cottages which by their qualities add so much to the beauty of old English towns and of the countryside."

#### Appointments.

The following members of the Institute are serving on sub-committees appointed under the Building Materials Committee of the Profiteering Act Department to inquire into the operations of the " Ring round the House " formed by the building-material trade combines :—Mr. E. Vincent Harris [F.], on the Bricks, Stone, and Clayware Sub-Committee ; Mr. Digby L. Solomon [A.], on the Timber Sub-Committee.

The personnel of the newly appointed South Wales Regional Planning Departmental Committee of the Ministry of Health, recently appointed by Dr. Addison, includes, among others, Professor Patrick Abercrombie [A.], Professor of Town Planning and Civic Design at Liverpool University ; Mr. T. Alwyn Lloyd [*Licentiate*], chief architect of the Welsh Town Planning and Housing Trust ; and Mr. G. L. Pepler, Chief Town Planning Officer of the Ministry of Health.

Mr. Andrew T. Taylor [R.F.] has been appointed Chairman of the London County Council Special (Building Control) Committee.

### ALLIED SOCIETIES.

#### Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society.

The Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society entertained their ex-service members to a complimentary dinner at the Exchange Hall, Nottingham, on the 24th February. The President, Mr. H. G. Watkins, presided over a company numbering about 70.

Proposing " The Memory of the Fallen," the President said the Society had to mourn the loss of five of their members—Captain N. H. Pratt, Lieut. E. H. Brown, Lieut. W. Smith, Lieut. K. V. Weston, and 2nd Lieut. J. H. Wilson—and three former members—Messrs. W. L. B. Leach, R. E. Hemingway, and C. Gascoigne.

The toast was honoured by the members standing in silence, and the following telegram was read :—

" The President of the Royal Institute desires to join the Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society in their congratulations to the victorious survivors and their tribute of respect and gratitude to those who have fallen in the fight. He sends his hearty good wishes to the President, Council, and members, and assures them of his devotion to the great work of uniting all architects in a solid and powerful organisation."

Mr. Watkins said that although the Society was not numerically a large one—about 110–145 members and associates served—a very fine record. Practically the whole of the service members had been traced, and every one had had an invitation, including one at Singapore. Several had been grievously wounded, and the following decorations had been gained :—D.S.O., two ; Légion d'Honneur, one ; M.C., four ; Italian Croix de Guerre, one. That was a record of which the Society might well be proud.

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council have decided to publish in the JOURNAL from time to time brief reports of the business transacted at Council Meetings. It is thought that such reports will be of interest to members who, in the past, have had to wait for the publication of the Annual Report to give them information as to the matters dealt with during the year.

#### Council Meeting, 16th February, 1920.

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND THE HOUSING QUESTION.—The Council gave serious consideration to the action of the Government in the matter of so-called " Luxury building." A conference has been arranged with the Ministry of Health for the purpose of discussing the position of architects under the National Housing Scheme, the scale of fees for housing schemes, and other matters.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY ATELIERS.—The Council have asked the Board of Architectural Education to prepare a scheme for the endowment of a valuable scholarship or scholarships for competition among students of the Royal Academy Ateliers.

PREMIUMS IN COMPETITIONS.—The Competitions Committee have been asked to prepare a scale of premiums for public competitions.

THE SKIPTON WAR MEMORIAL COMPETITION.—The Council have decided to veto this competition.

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS AND THE R.I.B.A. SCALE OF CHARGES.—The Council have sanctioned the publication of the R.I.B.A. Scale of Charges by the Society of Architects.

THE SOANE MEDALLIST, 1914.—The Council have approved of the programme of Mr. C. F. Farey's tour in Italy as Soane Medallist, 1914.

THE CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT.—With the assistance of the Conditions of Contract Committee the Council are considering a revised draft of the R.I.B.A. Form of Contract, the Ministry of Health's Form of Contract for Housing Schemes, and the draft Contract

Form of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

RESIGNATION.—The Council have accepted the resignation of Mr. G. O. Scorer [F.].

THE ROYAL GOLD MEDAL, 1920.—The Council have decided to nominate Monsieur Charles Girault (Honorary Corresponding Member) as Royal Gold Medallist for the year 1920.

THE ARCHIBALD DAWNAY BEQUEST.—The Council have been informed of the terms of this bequest, by which 5,000 £1 shares in the Archibald D. Dawnay and Sons' Company have been bequeathed to the R.I.B.A. for the foundation of scholarships for the promotion of architectural study.

## MINUTES. IX.

At a Special General Meeting held on the 1st March, 1920, at 8—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 35 Fellows (including 14 members of the Council), 27 Associates (including 1 member of the Council), 9 Licentiates, 2 Hon. Associates, and several visitors:

The President announced the object of the meeting and at his request Mr. Arthur Keen, *Hon. Secretary*, unveiled the portrait of Mr. Henry T. Hare, President 1917-19, painted by Sir William Llewellyn, A.R.A., and having referred to Mr. Hare's eminent services to the Institute and the profession, formally presented the portrait to the Institute.

Mr. Hare briefly addressed the meeting, and the President in accepting the portrait expressed the Institute's acknowledgments to Sir William Llewellyn for kindly undertaking the commission.

Mr. Jay Hambidge having delivered a lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, on Greek Design, a vote of thanks moved by Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith, Director of the Art Section of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and seconded by Sir Richard Paget, Bart., was carried by acclamation and responded to by the lecturer.

The proceedings closed at 11 p.m.

At the Ninth General Meeting (Business) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 1st March, 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 17 Fellows (including 11 members of the Council), 11 Associates (including 2 members of the Council), and 1 Licentiate—the Minutes of the Meeting held 16th February, 1920, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of Philip Coldwell Thicknesse, *Fellow*, elected 1904, Past President of the Liverpool Architectural Society and Member of the Institute Council, and it was Resolved that the regrets of the Institute for his loss be entered on the Minutes and that a message of sympathy and condolence be conveyed to his widow.

The decease was also announced of Mr. Herbert Ogden, elected Associate 1888.

The President announced that the Council proposed to submit to His Majesty the King the name of Charles Louis Girault, Membre de l'Institut de France (*Hon. Corr. M.*), as a fit recipient of the Royal Gold Medal for 1920.

The following candidates were elected by show of hands under By-law 10:—

### AS FELLOWS (10).

DALE: THOMAS LAWRENCE [A., 1907].  
DIXON-SPAIN: LT.-COL. JOHN EDWARD, O.B.E. [A., 1900].  
GOUGH: ARTHUR REUTLINGER [A., 1898], Bristol.  
GREGSON: THOMAS SEDGWICK [A., 1902], Bombay.  
HENNINGS: ARTHUR WILLIAM [A., 1888], Manchester.

MATTHEWS: MAJOR BERNARD FRANK, R.E. [A., 1911], India.

NICHOLAS: CHARLES [A., 1905].

POWERS: ERNEST MARSTON [A., 1909], Johannesburg  
And the following Licentiates who have passed the Qualifying Examination:—

FRY: LT.-COL. PETER GEORGE, C.M.G., D.S.O., Weston-super-Mare

SHEPHEARD: THOMAS FAULKNER, Liverpool.

### AS ASSOCIATES (73).

N.B.—*All the Candidates have passed the Qualifying Examination (the Final, the Special, or the Special War Examination)*—see JOURNAL, 10th January, pp. 115, 116.

ADDISON: JOSEPH (Aberdeenshire).

ARMSTRONG: EDWARD WILLIAM.

BADCOCK: PAUL.

BARTLEY: ALVA MARTIN, New Zealand.

BEATTIE: OSCAR ALEXANDER, New South Wales.

BERRY: ARTHUR GILBERT, Norwich.

BETHAM: ARTHUR ARCHER.

BLOOMFIELD: WILLIAM SWANSON READ, New Zealand.

BROAD: GORDON LESLIE, O.B.E., M.C., Manchester.

CABLE: CHARLES JOHN.

CARR: GERALD MOSMAN, New South Wales.

CASHMORE: FRANCIS MILTON.

CHIPMAN: NOEL INGERSOLL, Montreal.

CHRISTIAN: FREDERICK FISHER, Melbourne.

CUNDALL: PHILIP HENRY, Prestwich.

DAVIES: DAVID OWEN HARRIS, Swansea.

DAVIES: WILLIAM GEORGE, Bradford.

DEAR: FRANK TWYDALE.

DRAFFIN: MALCOLM KEITH, New Zealand.

EDGEUMBE: JOHN HAROLD, New Zealand.

FINCH: CLIFFORD HORACE, New South Wales.

FORD: THOMAS FRANCIS (*Aspirant Prize* 1919).

FRATER: ROBERT, Greenock.

GENTRY: EDGAR CHARLES.

GREENISH: FRANK EGGAR, New Zealand.

GRIERSON: HUGH CRESSWELL, New Zealand.

HAMILTON: ROBERT BELL.

HANNAFORD: LEONARD GORDON.

HARDY: PHILIP, Canada.

HOLBROW: ALFRED ERNEST.

HUBBARD: PHILIP WADDINGTON, M.A.

IRWIN: LEIGHTON FRANCIS.

JACKMAN: FREDERICK.

JEATER: WILLIAM DAVID, New South Wales.

JEFFREYS: HAROLD MURTON.

JEWELL: HARRY HERBERT.

JONES: OWEN CAMPBELL.

LEE: ROBERT ARTHUR, New South Wales.

LISLE: BERTRAM EDWIN.

McKENZIE: JOHN CHARLES.

MACLAURIN: ROBERT WILLIAM, New Zealand.

McMICHAEL: ALASTAIR MARSHALL, M.A.

MAISLY: SAMUEL REGINALD, New South Wales.

MASSY: HORACE LOVELL.

MASTERS: WILLIAM EWART.

MEIDRUM: PERCY HAYMAN.

NAUSCH: STANLEY.

NISBET: ALEC.

NOWLAND: RAYMOND CLARE, New South Wales.

OPPE: ARNOLD MOSTYN, Adelaide.

PILDITCH: PHILIP HAROLD.

REID: GORDON STUART.

REIDY: EDWARD DANIEL, New Zealand.

RHIND: JAMES ELLABY, Inverness.

RUWALD: CYRIL C., New South Wales.

SALE: FREDERICK.

SAVEGE: OLIVER FREDERICK, Hong Kong.

SMART: JACK STOCKER, New South Wales.

SMART: ROY ARCHIBALD, Victoria, Australia.

SOTZY: WAITER EDWARD DE

STEPHENSON: ARTHUR GEORGE, Melbourne.

STEVENSON: ROY KENNETH, Victoria, Australia.  
 STODDART: ROBERT WILLIAM.  
 TANNER: EDGAR ALLAN DAVEY.  
 THOMAS: PERCY EDWARD, O.B.E., Cardiff.  
 THOMAS: STANLEY KNIGHT, Usk., Monmouthshire.  
 TURNER: DONALD K., Sydney.  
 WEBB: KENNETH EDWARD, New South Wales.  
 WHITE: JAMES HODGE.  
 WILKES: FRANCIS HILTON, Ontario.  
 WILLIAMSON: JOHN WALLACE, Salisbury.  
 WOODHOUSE: FRANCIS PERCY MARK.  
 WYATT: LESLIE HERBERT WILLIAM.

Mr. Sydney Perks, F.S.A. [F.], moved in accordance with notice the following Resolution. That in the opinion of this Meeting no member should be nominated by the Council for re-election unless he has attended at least half of the Council meetings—this rule not to apply in exceptional cases, which should be explained in the JOURNAL.

Mr. A. W. S. Cross seconded the resolution.

The President having suggested the elimination of the concluding words, "which should be explained in the JOURNAL," and the mover and seconder having agreed to withdraw those words, the Resolution as amended was put to the vote and was carried unanimously.

The proceedings closed at 8.30 p.m.

## COMPETITIONS.

### Accrington War Memorial.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above Competition are unsatisfactory, and the Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing their amendment. Meanwhile, Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the Competition.

### Houghton-le-Spring Secondary School.

The conditions of this Competition have been amended and are now in accordance with the Regulations of the Royal Institute.

## NOTICES.

### Licentiates and the Fellowship.

The attention of Licentiates is called to the fact that, under the provisions of the Charter and By-laws, the last date on which a Licentiate can be nominated for the Fellowship is the 31st December, 1920. Any Licentiates who desire to become candidates for that class should therefore take the necessary steps at an early date. Particulars of the examination qualifying Licentiates for the Fellowship can be obtained on application at the Secretary's office.

### State-aided Housing Schemes: Architects' Fees.

The Institute Council have been informed that the official Scale of Fees has proved to be inadequate in many cases in which housing schemes are being undertaken on widely-scattered sites in rural districts. If any members are able to afford information bearing on this point the Council would be glad to receive it for consideration. Particulars should be addressed to the Secretary R.I.B.A.

### General Meeting (Ordinary) 15th March: American Departmental Stores.

The TENTH GENERAL MEETING (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-1920 will be held MONDAY, 15th MARCH, 1920, at 8 p.m., when the following Paper will be read:

### THE PLANNING OF AMERICAN DEPARTMENTAL STORES. By H. AUSTEN HALL [F.], *Godwin Bureau*.

### Special General Meeting 22nd March: The Unification of the Profession.

The Council have unanimously adopted the following Report of the Charter Committee, dated 20th February, 1920:

1. In compliance with the instructions of the Council the Charter Committee has examined and is now considering the question of unification and registration as it presents itself at the present time, together with the means which may best give effect to the general desire of the profession.

2. In view of the time that has elapsed since the mandate of the General Body was given and the wider outlook now apparent, the Charter Committee recommends that the Council should summon a Special General Meeting at an early date with a view to obtaining sanction for the Council to prepare and present for the consideration of the profession a more extended and comprehensive scheme than that covered by the Resolutions of 1914.

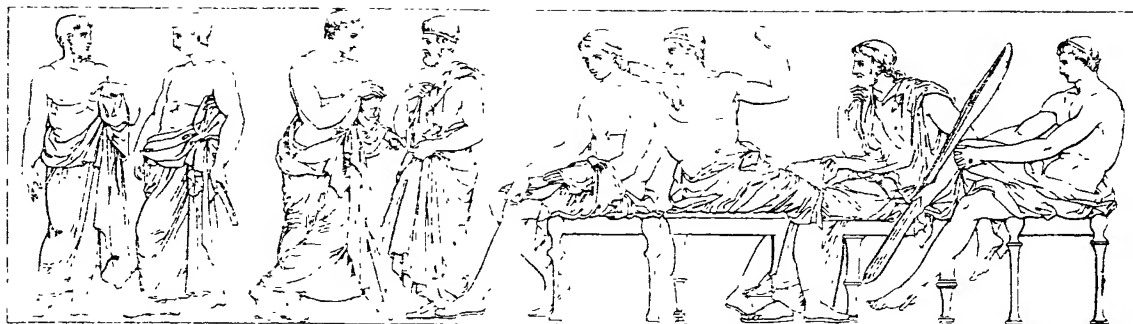
3. If this proposal is approved, the Committee suggest that the Council should, also with the sanction of the General Meeting, appoint a Committee representative of the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated above. This Committee should be composed of:

- A. Representatives of the Royal Institute of British Architects.
- B. " " Allied Societies in the United Kingdom.
- C. " " Architectural Association.
- D. " " Society of Architects.
- E. " " Official Architects' Association.
- F. " " Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union.
- G. " " Architects not belonging to any professional organisation.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING will accordingly be held on Monday, MARCH 22, at 8 p.m., for the purpose of obtaining the sanction of the General Body of Members for the Council's proposals as the first step towards the unification and registration of the profession.

The following Resolutions will be moved on behalf of the Council:

- 1. " That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to prepare and present for the consideration of the profession a more extended and comprehensive scheme than that covered by the Resolutions of 1914."
- 2. " That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to appoint a Committee representative of the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated in the report of the Charter Committee dated 20th February 1920."



## GREEK DESIGN.

By JAY HAMBRIDGE.

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 23rd February, 1920.

THE last time I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the Institute was as a guest of Francis Crammer Penrose. The occasion was the reading of his well-known paper on the Ionic Volute in the autumn of 1902. During that year I had the advantage of many conversations with Mr. Penrose on the subject of Greek architecture, and he permitted me to take his original notes and drawings on the Parthenon and use them in my London studio for many months. Together we discussed his then pet subject, the Ionic Volute, from many standpoints. I couldn't agree entirely with his hypothesis that the spiral was probably produced by unwrapping a string from a wooden cylinder cut in the form of a stepped cone. Following a conversation on this point I visited the British Museum next day and found compass marks on the unfinished eye of the volute from the column head from Ephesus. These marks were arranged on octant lines drawn through the centre of the eye. They appeared so clean and unweatherworn, however, that I suspected they might have been made by modern investigators. An Ionic head from Priene, however, well weatherworn, showing the same condition as the head from Ephesus, convinced me that the volute curve was produced by octant circle arcs, at least during later classic days. Photographs and squeezes were made for me of these two "eyes" at the time, but, as the find was a minor part of my general investigation of planning methods, I did not publish it. Mr. Penrose was present when I read my first paper on Symmetry before the Hellenic Society, shortly after he read his paper on the volute. During the discussion which followed he took advantage of the occasion to assure the members of the Society that he was familiar with my method of procedure, declared that it was scientific, hoped that the matter would not be permitted to languish, and gave the method unqualified endorsement. Many times during my conversations with the great archæologist he expressed his regret that British architects of the time were so out of touch with Greek design. Once he said, "I give you warning that it is almost impossible to revive interest in classic architecture in England." Since that wonderful summer of eighteen years ago I have critically examined the work of most Greek archæologists, but I have never found anything surpassing, or even equalling, the work of Francis Crammer Penrose. I am astonished that his name is not more often mentioned by modern English writers on the subject. There is an abundance of citation of German authorities, but of Penrose very little. However, it remained for a German to refer to his work at Athens as "the pearl of archæological research." (See Prof. Wm. H. Goodyear's *Greek Refinements*.)

When we measure the greatest length and the greatest breadth of a Greek temple, a Greek unit of pattern, a Greek bronze or a Greek vase of the best period, we obtain the end and side of a rectangle. The lines which we thus obtain are almost always incommensurable or unmeasurable one with the other. As areas, however, these rectangles possess a fascinatingly curious commensurability. They are extremely easy to construct and, moreover, belong, or may be reduced, to one or two classes.

Further, we almost invariably find that the details of a Greek design are logical parts of its containing rectangle. In fact this is the acid test by which we determine the grade of planning knowledge possessed by the classical designer. For example, if we measure the greatest height and the greatest width of a fine vase in bronze or clay we find that the width of the foot, its height, whatever definite sub-divisions there may be, the width and height of the lip, the height and width of the neck, and, in the great majority of cases, the ornamental band usually found underneath pictorial compositions, are all logical and direct sub-multiples, of a peculiar kind, of the containing or overall rectangle. If this doesn't prove to be the case, then the example is excluded as an exception.

When Greek designs were first measured the astonishing fact was revealed that the measured lines were incommensurable—*i.e.*, one line could not be divided one into the other. In later days certain enthusiastic archaeologists claim to have discovered round numbers in some Greek measurements. It has been claimed, for example, that the stylobate flank was exactly 200 Olympic feet. Without questioning the accuracy of the modern interpretation of the Olympic foot, or accepting it as established, the fact remains that other lines of the ground plan, such as the façade width, the enclosing or sub-dividing lines of the cella, etc., cannot be divided into this so-called line of 200 feet. But, if we take this same temple plan and consider the rectangle it furnishes, also the rectangle of the plan of the cella and the column arrangement, we see immediately that they belong to a class of rectangular shapes which seem to have been well known to Greek designers for generations. Moreover, we recognise at once that the architect of the Zeus temple used a different type of rectangle from those we find on the Acropolis at Athens. Theoretically we should find round numbers in some shape in Greek design, but it is not likely that we shall find them more than once or twice in any specific example.

This is a very astonishing situation. As practical men, we know that, before works can be carried out by workmen, some measuring method must be employed which produces commensurability. For this purpose we use the foot or the metre, and divide it into even fractional parts. An exhaustive investigation of classic design shows clearly that in the early part of the sixth century B.C. Greek craftsmen were using a measuring method wherein commensurability of lines was an essential feature. And that some time during this century a change was made from the older to a newer system. The essential base of this new method was incommensurability of lines, but measurableness of area. The first system depended upon a unit of some sort. It is not necessary for us to know what this unit was; it may have been a cubit, a foot, a hand, or something quite arbitrary. The point to bear in mind is that measurableness of line or area will always remain measurable, no matter what the unit may be. A diagonal to a square in relation to a side, for example, will remain a diagonal to a square whether we use a foot, a metre, or any other length unit, or whether we fix it arbitrarily by construction. It is because of this fact that we are able to create an instrument for analysis which will determine accurately the character of a measuring scheme in any terms we may decide to select. The determination of the character of a measuring method in design in reality means the determination of the grade of *symmetry*, using the word in its Greek sense of analogy or relation of part to whole.

In this connection it is advisable to stress the point that design means very much what the word implies—that is, *intention*. Before we recognise a design as such there must exist in it an arrangement of elements of some sort which bear to each other and to the whole some degree of relationship. This may be conscious or unconscious on the part of the creator of the design. That there was intention on the part of the designer to make this relationship depend upon a definite proceeding, at certain periods of man's design history, we know, because treatises written upon the subject, as well as plans themselves, have survived. For the purpose of determining the grade of symmetry in a design, however, there is nothing better than the design itself, providing that we have the proper instrument for analysis. Recognition of the necessity for such an instrument led the writer, some twenty-three years ago, to undertake an examination of the bases of symmetry in nature. Five years later, in the autumn



of 1902, a preliminary paper upon the subject was read before the Hellenic Society in London. At this time a minor phase of symmetry phenomena had been formulated. Later, during the winter of 1913, the entire scheme was developed and arrangements made for the reading of a concluding paper before the same Society, during the autumn of 1914. The coming of the war caused a postponement until 1919.

Examination of natural symmetry developed the fact that there were but two phases of this phenomena which could be of use to design. One of these is observable in the crystal and in other regular pattern forms. The snow crystal is an excellent illustration. Because of certain characteristics this was given the name of *Static Symmetry*. The other phase is to be seen in the phenomena of leaf distribution in plants, and in the curious asymmetrical balance of form in the shell. This, because it appeared to be the orderly arrangement of elements in growth, was given the name dynamic symmetry.

Examination of man's design efforts developed the striking fact that there existed a parallel between these and nature. It was found that the static type was more or less spontaneous: was indeed the type used consciously or unconsciously. This type, very often, is apparent by inspection, and in such cases it is not necessary to measure a design. It is difficult to believe, however, that the *dynamic* type could be employed unconsciously. When the general principles inherent in these two types of symmetry had been worked out, and their operating technique developed, it was found that the static was the type existing in the design products of all nations excepting the Egyptian and the Greek: also that it is historical that the Greeks had practically exhausted many phases of this dynamic type, probably as early as the beginning of the fifth century B.C.; that, as early as the fifth, some think the eighth, century B.C. the Hindus were familiar with many of the basic facts of dynamic symmetry. We learn this from an early Hindu work which has survived termed *Sulvasutras*. "The term *Sulvasutra* means 'the rules of the chord,' and is the name given to the *Kalpāsutras*, which treat of the construction of sacrificial altars." Those curious to read about this interesting matter should consult *Indian Mathematics*, by George Rusby Kaye, Calcutta and Simla.

The Indian phraseology in this old work, in the light of dynamic symmetry, is of curious interest. Some of it is:—

- (1) A chord stretched across a square produces an area of twice the size.
- (2) Take the measure for the breadth, the diagonal of its square for the length: the diagonal of that oblong is the side of a square the area of which is three times the area of the (generating) square.
- (3) The diagonal of an oblong produces by itself both the areas which the two sides produce separately.
- (4) This is seen in those oblongs whose sides are three and four, twelve and five, fifteen and eight, seven and twenty-four, twelve and thirty-five, fifteen and thirty-six, etc.

The oblongs described in (1) and (2) are root-rectangles, and are identical with those we know, from history, that the Greeks worked out. The Greek phraseology, however, was "the determination of a square which should be any multiple of a square on a given linear base" (see Allman's *History of Greek Geometry*, from Thales to Euclid).

The oblongs described in (3) and (4) are the triangles of history by which the rope-stretchers established right-angles and "corded the temples." The 3 and 4 oblong has 5 for a diagonal, 12 and 5 has 13, 7 and 24 has 25, etc., etc. It will be noted that the Hindu uses the term oblong. This immediately suggests the Pythagorean rule for the determination of right-angles by numbers, beginning with odd numbers. Take an odd number, say 3, square it and subtract unity, divide the result by 2: 3 multiplied by 3 equals 9, and 9 minus 1 equals 8, 8 divided by 2 equals 4, the second term; add unity, to obtain 5. This is the celebrated 3 4 5 triangle of Pythagoras, which has been in use for fixing right-angles from early Egyptian days to the present. Later Plato supplied a rule for finding right-angles beginning with even numbers (see Ballo, *Short History of Mathematics*). I have

seen a carpenter in America establish a right-angle by a rope divided into twelve parts, and lay out his plan on the ground for a garage. Asked for the meaning of the proceeding, he replied that he supposed everybody knew the principle; he had known it since apprentice days. The historical method was to take a rope divided into twelve units; place three of these along an established line, four the other way, and permit the remaining five units to form the hypotenuse. This consideration of the right-angle leads us immediately to the crux of the matter of symmetry in Egyptian and Greek design, and one of the most interesting glimpses of ancient craft practice is furnished by the etymology of a Greek word. An explanation of this point will be found in Crow's *Short History of Greek Mathematics*.

"The Greek philosopher Democritus is quoted by Clement of Alexandria as saying: 'In the construction of plane figures (lit., composition of lines), with proofs no one has yet surpassed me, not even the so-called Harpedonaptæ of Egypt.' It was evident, of course, that these Harpedonaptæ were famous geometers, but Professor Cantor has first pointed out that their name is compounded of two Greek words and means simply 'rope-stretchers.' He explains their function in the following way: 'There is no doubt that the Egyptians were very careful about the exact orientation of their temples and other public buildings. But inscriptions seem to show that only the north and south line was drawn by actual observation of the stars. The east and west line, therefore, was drawn at right-angles to the other. Now it appears, from the practice of Heron of Alexandria, and of the ancient Indian and probably also the Chinese geometers, that a common method of securing a right-angle between two very long lines was to stretch around three pegs a rope measured into three portions which were to one another as 3 : 4 : 5. The triangle thus formed is, of course, right-angled. Further, the operation of rope-stretching is mentioned in Egypt, without explanation, at an extremely early time (Amenemhat I).'"

Sir Norman Lockyer, in his *Dawn of Astronomy*, furnishes us with some pertinent Egyptian wall inscriptions bearing upon this matter of "cording the temple." It seems to have been an important ceremony, and the king, accompanied by the appropriate goddess, drove the pins with a golden hammer.

The historians tell us that the Egyptians were regarded by the Greeks as masters of figure dissection. From the above the rope-stretchers must be included in this class. The present investigation of design bases suggests unmistakably that these rope-stretchers were equivalent to the modern surveyor. Herodotus tells us that the annual overflow of the Nile destroyed property boundaries and created much confusion and dispute. To re-establish these boundaries frequent re-survey was necessary. If rope-stretching was a recognised science as early as the time of Amenemhat I, the beginning of the practice must have long antedated that period. It must have taken many centuries to develop skill so publicly recognised.

Dynamic symmetry shows us that it must have been out of some such practice as rope-stretching or surveying that the basic ideas of correlated or formal design in both Egypt and Greece developed. We may take any one of the right-angled triangles which are obtainable from the rules of Pythagoras and Plato and obtain readily, and with the utmost accuracy, all the proportions which we find in classic design.

It will probably have occurred to the audience that dynamic symmetry, in its essentials, is simply a method of measuring. This is indeed true. Design analysis in general shows that the spontaneous method of measuring is linear. In our day we use the linear unit; but this method produces static symmetry of the most commonplace kind. A much better grade of the static variety was used during the Middle Ages. The facts appear to justify the assumption that some genius, undoubtedly in Egypt, but possibly in Greece, after a linear scheme had been in use for some time, made the extraordinary discovery that another method of measurement was possible: that a diagonal to a square, used in relation to a side, produced shapes which, while incommensurable as lines, were delightfully

measurable as areas. The fascinating series of root-two shapes which Greek design supplies rest upon this side and diagonal relationship. Later still some other observant designer hit upon the idea that the diagonal to two squares, in relation to the side of one of the generating units, supplied a much more powerful and flexible method of area measurement. This latter method is the most satisfactory scheme so far discovered for correlating the elements of design.

To us the interesting aspect of the matter lies in the fact that a diagonal to two squares is the base of the phenomena of leaf distribution in the vegetable world. Modern botanical research has sufficiently established this.

Owing to his understanding of a method of measuring by areas so simple—indeed, that a string and a few pins or a string merely held in the two hands is all the instrument necessary—the Greek designer had knowledge of an infinite series of remarkable shapes entirely unknown to the modern designer. We may use strong emphasis on this point because extraordinary precautions have been taken to ensure accuracy of results. The Parthenon at Athens, of course, stands on Penrose's measurements. When we consider the ground plan of this building as a rectangular area (this area must include the Euthynteria or lowest levelling course), and divide the end into the side, we obtain a ratio which is immediately recognisable as belonging to the series of dynamic shapes mentioned. Penrose was most painstaking in his survey of this building, so we may take his figures, and without making a drawing or diagram prove the correctness of the measurable area scheme by a little arithmetic. When we follow out the logical process of subdivision, which is a peculiar property of this particular rectangle, we find that every detail of this ground plan forms part of an arrangement wherein the basic design idea is similarity of figure. The main motive is a square plus an area obtained from a diagonal to two squares. The principle by which the subdivisions are obtained depends upon establishing a reciprocal to the major area. This idea of a reciprocal to a shape seems to be quite unknown to modern design, but there is overwhelming evidence that Greek designers thoroughly understood it. The division of the area of the Parthenon ground plan results in an arrangement of similar figures in which the column centering plays the most important part: this includes the relationship of the neighbouring columns to the angle columns. The error throughout is the error of workmanship, as Penrose's measurements disclose it. After the ground plan we may take the façades and all their details, such as columns, architrave, triglyph, and metope or pediment. Further, we may unfold the buildings—*i.e.*, place the front and side elevations, with half the roof on either side, in two-dimensional position on the four sides of the ground plan and obtain another larger rectangle. In this shape every superficial square inch of the exterior of the building may be inspected. This new rectangle will be found to belong to the same base as the rectangle of the ground plan. In other words, the building supplies us with an area theme of a peculiar character. Moreover, it is easily proven that this particular theme has a base in nature.

During the past year and a half Dr. L. D. Caskey, Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, has devoted his entire time to the preparation of a large volume on the Greek pottery under his care, wherein the whole fabric is scholarly and exhaustively treated in the light of dynamic symmetry. Dr. Caskey's work is corroborative in every detail of the dynamic theory. At the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, Miss G. M. A. Richter, Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities, took unusual precautions to obtain reliable measurements. The pottery was first measured in detail by a secretary and a rough sketch made of the example. This material was sent to me at Boston. From these measurements I quickly determined the grade of symmetry of each example. An expert draughtsman, with the assistance of a few specially prepared instruments, made an accurate drawing of the projection of each example. These were also sent to me, the drawings being first inked, so no changes could be made. If these drawings and measurements did not coincide the example had to be reinspected. Later I made an interpretation of the straight line and curve proportions of all the examples. It should be borne in mind that it is not necessary to make a drawing

of any example of Greek classic design : a few measurements settle the matter. So far classic design shows something like 80 per cent. based upon a diagonal of two squares as a measuring base ; approximately 10 per cent. on the diagonal to one square, 5 or 6 per cent. static, the remainder indeterminate.

We obtain the same percentage from the British Museum. I have been gradually obtaining examples of Greek bronzes of the best period, both here and in America. The results show even a higher quality of symmetry than the pottery. I stress the importance of the Greek vase because it has developed that this pottery is the only pure architectural pottery. Almost nothing is known about the shapes of this extraordinary fabric, while volumes have been written on the paintings or drawings on them. The Greek vase compels our admiration, and has persisted as an object of rare beauty probably because of its exquisite proportions and shape. The paintings are often inferior. Professor Baur of Yale University, has pointed out that the Greeks themselves thought thus because we find more signatures of designers than of painters. Edmond Pottier, Keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the Louvre at Paris in 1906, had to say of the proportions found in Greek vases :—

" I will add that the proportions of the vases, the relations of dimensions between the different parts of the vessel, seem among the Greeks to have been the object of minute and delicate researches. We know of cups from the same factory, which, while similar in appearance, are none the less different in slight, but appreciable, variations of structure (*n'en sont pas moins différentes par des nuances appréciables de structure*) (*cf.*, for example, Furtwangler and Reichold, *Griechische Vasenmalerei*, p. 250). One might perhaps find in them, if one made a profound study of the subject, a system of measurement analogous to that of statuary. We have, in fact, seen that at its origin the vase is not to be separated from the figurine (p. 78) : down to the classical period it retains points of similarity (*accountances*) with the structure of the human body (Salle). As M. Froehner has well shown in an ingenious article (*Revue des Deux Mondes*, 1873, c. civ. p. 223), we ourselves speak of the foot, the neck, the body, the lip of a vase, assimilating the pottery to the human figure. What, then, would be more natural than to submit it to a sort of plastic canon, which, while modified in the course of time, would be based on simple and logical rules ? I have remarked (*Monuments*, Piot IX, p. 138) that the maker of the vase of Cleomenes observed a rule illustrated by many pieces of pottery of this class when he made the height of the object exactly equal to its width. M. Reichold (c. 1, p. 181) also notes that in an amphora attributed to Euthymides the circumference of the body is exactly double the height of the vase. I believe that a careful examination of the subject would lead to interesting observations on what might be called the " geometry of Greek ceramics." (E. Pottier, *Musée National du Louvre, Vases antiques, III*, p. 659.)

#### THE PARTHENON PLAN SCHEME.

The Parthenon plan must be considered as a straight line or rectangular area arrangement. The curves are refinements added after the plan was developed. (See Penrose and Prof. Wm. H. Good-year.) Dynamic Symmetry shows us that a Greek design must be considered in its totality—*i.e.*, the entire or overall dimensions must be contained exactly in some definite rectangle. For a Greek building these overall dimensions must include the Euthynteria or lowest levelling course. The width of the end of the stylobate of the Parthenon is 101·341 English feet. Penrose gives the width of the three steps as 4·65 feet on one side and 4·67 on the other. The width of the Euthynteria as a small step is ·33. This added to 4·65 equals 4·98 ; to 4·67 it is 5·. For convenience of arithmetical calculation we may assume that 5· is correct. Multiplied by 2 we obtain 10· English feet as the width of the steps on either side of the stylobate. The full width of the end of the rectangle of the ground plan therefore is 111·341 feet. The length of the top step on the flank is 228·154 ± ; with 10· added it is 238·154 ±.

111·341 divided into 238·154 equals the ratio 2·1382.

111·341 multiplied by 2·1382 equals 238·069, actual error ·045 feet. The actual ratio should be 2·13819 ±. We have a degree of accuracy here which is difficult to realise in a building built by man.

Students of dynamic symmetry will immediately recognise the ratio 2.1882 as a compound shape composed of two familiar areas which are arithmetically represented by 1.4472 plus .691. Of the ratio 1.4472 the whole number 1. represents the area of a square and .4472 is a root-five rectangle. The square root of five is 2.2360 and this number, normally, would be the ratio for a root-five area—*i.e.*, a rectangle the end of which is 1. or unity and the side 2.2360 (N.B.—These areas may be scaled sufficiently close for an ordinary drawing by using a metric scale). In the present case the root-five area is standing on its short end with its side against the side of a square, consequently the side is regarded as unity or 1. The short end must be in root-five proportion to unity—*i.e.*, the area must be a reciprocal of the root-five area. This notion of a reciprocal is entirely new to modern design, but we have abundant evidence that the Greeks thoroughly understood its functions. A reciprocal of a root-five rectangle—or indeed any root area—may be obtained by dividing the number representing the root into unity or 1.0. A root rectangle always contains an even number of reciprocals. A root-five rectangle contains 5 reciprocals, root-four 4, root-three 3, root-two 2, etc.

2.2360 divided into 1.0 equals 0.4472. or

2.2360 divided by 5 equals 0.4472.

The ratio 1.4472 is now clear. The simple geometric method for the construction of this area is as follows:—

Construct a square and bisect the area by the line A B, Fig. 1, *a* [p. 221]. Draw the line B C.

This is a diagonal to two squares. Make B D equal to B E and through E draw F G parallel to B D. The area F D is a root-five rectangle. F G is equal to unity or 1.0 and G D is equal to 0.4472. In Fig. 1 *b*, the root-five area C B is added to the square A B, and A D is a 1.4472 rectangle. The fraction 0.691, because it is less than unity, must represent a reciprocal of some ratio greater than unity. To obtain this ratio we divide 0.691 into 1.0. The result is 1.4472. A reciprocal of a rectangular area is a similar shape to the whole, therefore a 0.691 area is also composed of a square plus a root-five rectangle.

The geometrical method for the construction of a 1.4472 shape plus its reciprocal is shown in Fig. 2.

A B is a diagonal to a 1.4472 area. B C is a diagonal to a 0.691 area. The two lines form a right angle at B.

General methods for geometrically determining reciprocals are shown in Fig. 3 *a* and *b*.

A C, Fig. 3 *a*, is any rectangle. A B is a square on the end of the rectangle "applied" to the area of the rectangle, and E D is a diagonal which cuts F B, a side of the square A B at G. The line G B is the end of a reciprocal to the major shape. A B, Fig. 3 *b*, is any rectangle, and D C is a diagonal, A F D is a semicircle described on A D, the end of the rectangle. The diagonal D C cuts the semicircle at F. Draw A E through the point F. The area A E is a reciprocal and a similar shape to the whole. Diagonals of reciprocals cut diagonals of the whole at right angles and introduce continued proportion into the area of a rectangle. E F is to F D as F D : F A : F C ; or E D : D A : D A : A C, etc. A F D is a triangle in a semicircle, and, consequently, is a right-angled triangle.

Referring to the Parthenon ground plan, A B, Fig. 4, is a 2.1882 rectangle, A G a 1.4472, and C B a 0.691 area.

A D is a square "applied" to A G, and C I, a diagonal, cuts J D at F. The line F D is equal to G B. Draw the line F H parallel to D B. C D is a root-five rectangle as is also H C. A D, B K are squares.

The area C H, Fig. 5, is a root-five rectangle. This area is composed of a square plus two 0.6180 shapes, 1.0 plus 0.618 plus 0.618. This area, represented by the fraction 0.618, is a rectangle which has been given the name, by the writer, of the "rectangle of the whirling squares," because of a certain property possessed by its reciprocals. If 0.6180 be divided into 1.0 the result is 1.6180. The geometrical method for the construction of this shape is shown in Fig. 6 *a* and *b*.

A B, Fig. 6 *a*, is a square. B C, a side, is bisected at D and D E drawn. D E is a diagonal to two squares. D F is made equal to D E. The rectangle A F is completed. This area is a rectangle of the

"whirling squares."  $AC$  is unity or 1.0, and  $CF$  is equal to 1.6180.  $CB$  is equal to 1.0, and  $BF$  0.6180.  $FE$  is a reciprocal to  $FA$ . The square-root of five is 2.2360. If to 1.6180 the fraction 0.6180 be added, the result is 2.2360. In Fig. 6  $b$ ,  $CD$  is a square.  $DF$ , a side, is bisected at  $E$  and  $EG$ , a diagonal to two squares, drawn.  $EG$  is made equal to  $EB$  or  $EH$ .  $HCG$  is a semi-circle;  $HC$ ,  $GB$  are 0.6180 rectangles.  $AD$ ,  $BC$  are 1.6180 rectangles.  $AB$  is a root-five rectangle composed of a square  $CD$  plus the two 0.618 shapes  $BG$ ,  $AF$ .

$AB$ , Fig. 7, is a 2.1382 rectangle.  $CD$  is a root-five rectangle, and  $DF$  an area composed of two 0.6180 shapes. To the 0.691 area  $BD$  we apply the root-five area  $BG$ , equal to  $CD$ .  $BK$  is a square, and  $KL$  two 0.6180 areas; and  $HF$  is composed of two 0.6180 areas; and  $JK$  is a square greater in area than the squares  $BK$  or  $CE$ . To the other end of the rectangle  $AB$  we "apply" the squares  $AM$  and  $NO$ , equal to the squares  $CE$  and  $BK$ . We now have by simple geometrical construction defined an area similar to the ground plan of the Parthenon with four squares, one on each corner. To obtain the numerical value of the line  $NL$  we multiply the known line  $AN$ —*i.e.*, 111.341 by 1.4472. The result is 161.1326÷ English feet.  $BL$  is 111.341 multiplied by 0.691 or 76.9366 English feet. Added, the two lines give us 238.0693, or the flank length of the ground plan. The square  $BJ$  is 76.9366 by 76.9366.  $BC$  is equal to 76.9366, and  $CP$  34.4044 or the difference between 76.9366 and 111.341.

We now have for the sides of the four squares at the four corners of the plan the numerical value of 34.4044 feet. We may now consider the centering of the columns, and at the same time define the error between Penrose's measurements and the plan.

Fourteen columns from a flank give us the following measurements from centre to centre.

13.983
14.052
14.124
14.110
14.079
14.093
14.058
14.094
14.066
14.089
14.113
14.068
14.124
14.084

---

197.137

Dividing this by 14, we have as a mean 14.081 feet.

The mean distance from the edge of the top step to the centre of the second column is  $15.456 \pm$  feet. Multiplying this by two and adding 10 feet, the width of the steps, including the Euthynteria, multiplied by 2, we have 40.912 feet. This, added to 197.137, equals 238.049. The ratio measurement was 238.069. The error is 0.000.020—*i.e.*, two one-hundredths of a foot. It will be noted that the error by construction is always within the error of workmanship as we find it in the building. The mean distance from centre to centre of the columns is 14.081 feet. Penrose gives the distance from the edge of the top step to the cella wall in one case as 15.330, and in another as 15.350. The step width is 5.0; this added to 15.350 is equal to 20.350. If we consider the distance from centre to centre of the columns as the end of a rectangle, and the distance from the cella wall to the extremity of the Euthynteria as the side, such an area will be composed of a square plus a root-five rectangle

—i.e., the column centering widths, extending all around the building and excluding the angle columns and their immediate neighbours, with the distance from cella wall to step base, produce a series of areas similar to the generating area of the ground plan and directly connected with it by proportion.

$14.081 \times 1.4472$  equals 20.378

Penrose's figures 20.350

Error 00.028

The greatest variations in the ground plan occur at the angle columns and their relation to their neighbouring columns. This was probably due to the difficulty of making adjustments for refinements. In no case, however, is it much greater than an inch, a degree of accuracy difficult for others than

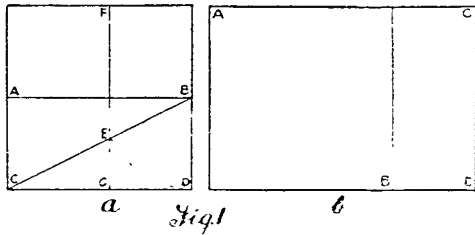


Fig. 1

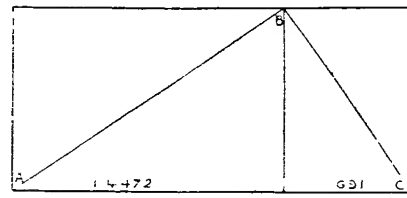


Fig. 2.

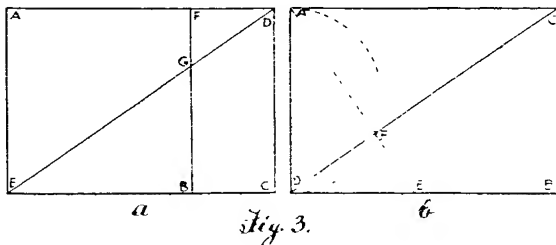


Fig. 3.

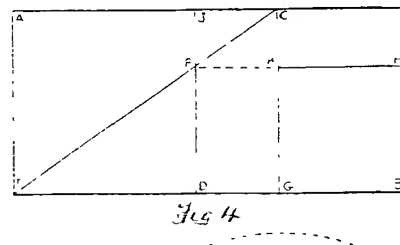


Fig. 4

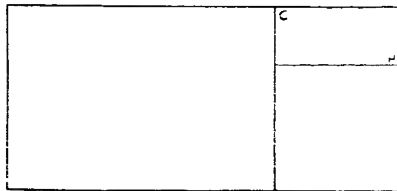
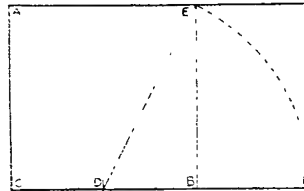
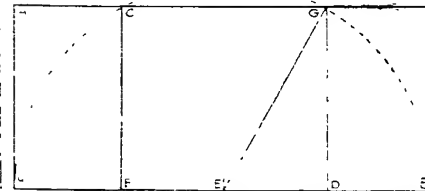


Fig. 5.



a



b

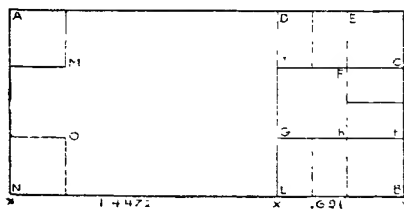


Fig. 7

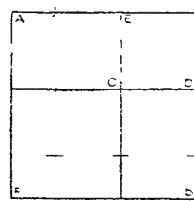


Fig. 8.

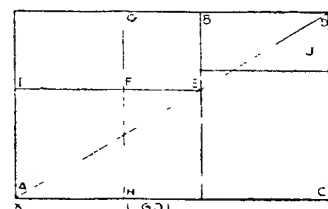


Fig. 9.

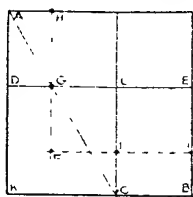


Fig. 10

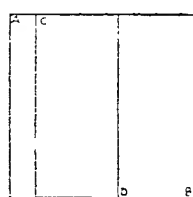


Fig. 11.

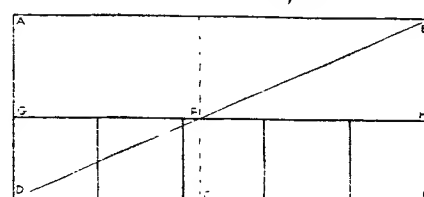


Fig. 12



practical architects to realise. From the centre of the second column to the top step the mean distance is  $15.456 \pm$  step width  $5.0$ , result  $20.456$ ; mean centre to centre distance  $14.081$ , result  $34.537$ .\* Side of the root-five square on each corner, obtained from the generating scheme,  $34.4044$ , error  $0.1326$ . This approximate error probably was a factor in the increment of curvature in the stylobate. Asked once by the writer what he thought the increment of curvature or sagitta actually was, Penrose replied that it was difficult to say, though he had assumed it to be a definite amount in his book. He thought two to two and a half inches would be close enough.

We now must consider the subdividing of the corner squares to place the centering of the first and second columns in relation to the third columns. Sides of these squares pass through the centres of the third columns. Thus we have an arrangement of the subdivided area of a square as in Fig. 8.

$A B$  is a square;  $A C$ ,  $B C$ , two areas each composed of a square plus a root-five figure;  $E D$ ,  $F C$  are squares. If  $A B$  be regarded as unity, then the areas  $F E$  or  $F D$  are composed of the square  $F C$  plus an area of a square and a root-five figure; that is to say,  $1.691$ . The reciprocal of this ratio (it is one frequently found in other Greek designs) is  $0.5913$ . The area  $B E$  or  $A D$  is composed of the square  $E D$  plus the square and root-five areas  $A C$  or  $B C$ , the ratio being  $1.4472$  plus  $1.0$  or  $2.4472$ . The reciprocal of this is  $0.4087$ . The reciprocal ratios  $0.5913$  plus  $0.4087$  equal unity or the line  $F B$ .

To construct within a square a square plus a square and a root-five rectangle: add a square and a root-five rectangle to a square. The ratio then will be  $1.691$ , see Fig. 9.

$A B$  is a square,  $B C$  a square,  $C E$ , plus the root-five rectangle  $J B$ .  $A D$  is a diagonal to the entire shape.  $A E$  is the area desired within the square  $A B$ .  $A F$  is a square within the area  $A E$ .  $A G$  is a similar shape to  $A E$ .  $G E$  is a square.

The centering of the columns in relation to the step width is done by a diagonal to the  $1.691$  area within the square on the corner of the plan as in Fig. 10.

$A B$  is a corner square;  $A C$  a  $1.691$  area within it, and the diagonal  $A C$  of this shape cuts the line  $D E$  at  $G$ . This point  $G$  is the centre of the first column from the angle column  $F$ —i.e. the area  $G C$  is similar to  $A C$ . The columns  $G$  and  $I$  are closer to the angle column  $F$  than they are to the columns  $H$  and  $J$  exactly as we find them in the plan. The width of the steps on the plan is fixed by constructing a root-five area within the  $1.691$  areas of the corners, Fig. 11.

$A B$  is a corner square;  $A D$  a  $1.691$  area;  $C D$  a root-five area within  $A D$ ;  $A C$  is the width of the steps.

Of course, the entire details of such a building as the Parthenon cannot be discussed within the limits of an evening's talk, especially when the subject itself has to be introduced. We must neglect the cella and the elevations with their details. It may be said, however, that the symmetry of all these conforms strictly to that of the ground plan. Moreover, the area arrangement we find in the Parthenon was not new to Phidias or Ictinus—close inspection of the symmetry of over a thousand examples of Greek design from the sixth century to the first century B.C. shows that the motif or theme found in the Parthenon appears many times in designs previously made.

It should also be remembered that analysis is not synthesis. It is often a perplexing matter to follow a cold trail, while the trail itself was easily and simply made. The evidence appears to indicate that these proportions of dynamic symmetry were the outcome of a method of surveying by area wherein a diagonal to two squares formed the base. The figures given above may be varied slightly and the errors reduced because it is not always clear what the exact measurements were. According to Penrose, the plan is not an exact rectangle—is any building plan exactly rectangular as it is carried out in the work? The stylobate on each front is  $101.341$  for one, and  $101.361$  for the other: the flank length on one side is  $228.154$  for one, and  $228.141$  for the other. If we take the double step width as  $10.0$ , and use  $111.361$  for the end and  $238.141$  for the side of a rectangle, the ratio  $2.1352$  leaves an error

\* By construction we obtained  $34.4044$  for the side of this square. If we consider  $20.350$  plus  $14.081$ , or  $34.431$ , as the side of this square the error is reduced to  $0.027$ .

of 3/100ths of a foot. Many confusing points of this character can only be cleared by another inspection of the building as it stands.

It may be added that the following ratios connected with 1.4472 and 0.691 appear in façades and details :—

Width of front, 111.341.

Height of façade by construction, 64.60 ±.

The lesser divided into the greater produces the ratio 1.7236. The fraction 0.7236 is equal to 1.4472 divided by 2. Penrose gives the average width and height of the triglyphs as 2.766 and 3.840. The lesser into the greater gives the ratio 1.382 (error 0.018). The reciprocal of 1.382 is 0.7236, or again 0.691 multiplied by 2. If the metopes were originally planned as squares, then metope plus triglyph is a similar figure to the façades, or 1.7236. The height of the angle columns, minus increment of curvature, is 34.250, the width of the abacus 0.685 ±; the lesser into the greater gives root twenty-five or 5 squares. The area factor which supplies all the details of the column head is root-five.

Root 25 equals 5.000

Root 5 equals 2.236

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2.764 difference.

The difference 2.764 divided by 4 equals 0.691; or by 2 equals 1.382. The five squares of the angle columns are obtained by simple construction from a root-five area of the plan, see Fig. 12.

A B is a root-five rectangle; A C an "applied" square on the end. D E is a diagonal; it cuts a side of the square A C at F. D H is an area equal to the area of the square A C and is composed of five squares—i.e., it is a root-twenty-five rectangle.

To those unfamiliar with the present method of analytical proof by arithmetic the process may seem complicated. It is, however, quite the reverse, as a little familiarity with the method will prove. Very early in his work the writer found that geometrical analysis was fallacious in every way; it invariably results in mere playing with lines and shapes. With it rigid proof is impossible. As the method by arithmetic now stands we may determine with great accuracy the symmetry of any design whatever without making a drawing. Diagrams and drawings are used to help the student visualise the facts and have nothing whatever to do with the proof.

## DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*, in the Chair.

Sir CECIL H. SMITH, LL.D. [*Hon. A.*] (Director of the Art Division, Victoria and Albert Museum), in proposing a vote of thanks, said he took a profound interest in the industrial arts and welcomed very much indeed the views which Mr. Hambidge had put before the meeting. If only architects could be got to take them up, we should once again find them designing for the industrial arts. The reason why the industrial arts had declined in the immediate past was largely because of the absence of architectural art in the designs. The Hindoo history of architecture showed us that the average Hindoo architect, in the past at any rate, was always expected to be a master of at least one other art. He was responsible not only for the architecture and decoration, but also for the warming of the building. In Persia the architect was, as a general rule, a mason, and in India both mason and carpenter. Judging from the evidence he had gathered from Mr. Hambidge's work and also from the

result of his own researches at the British Museum, it seemed to him that Mr. Hambidge by his theory of commensurability of areas had hit upon an extraordinarily interesting truth. He was not clear, however, whether Mr. Hambidge meant that the artist of ancient Greece who made the vase or the small bronze was acting on this dynamic law, or whether he did it more or less intuitively, because he was so accustomed to seeing everything designed from that point of view that he would hardly fail to do the same himself. It was hardly conceivable that a Greek potter, a man of the lower orders, should have been conversant with the Books of Euclid and capable of working out the exact lines, determining the rectangles, squares and reciprocals on which the Greek vase was produced. However that might be, Mr. Hambidge's theory deserved the fullest consideration by the artists of this country.

Sir RICHARD PAGET, K.C.B. [*Hon. A.*], in seconding the vote of thanks, said that, personally, as

one who was interested in design, the ideas which Mr. Hambidge had put forward were certainly most instructive and opened the door to an entirely new set of ideas. The notion of measuring areas instead of lengths and breadths was fundamental and interesting. He was sure it would have a most useful effect on all who were interested in proportion and design: they would see in it not only a basis of good design, but also of good craftsmanship, on which, ultimately, good design rests.

The PRESIDENT, in putting the vote of thanks, expressed the appreciation of the meeting of Mr. Hambidge's patient and learned exposition of the principles wherein he believed himself to have found the solution of the mysterious perfection of Greek art. If all were not convinced, it was doubtless owing in some degree to imperfect mathematical perception, not to the lecturer's clear explanation. He, for one, was not prepared to challenge him in a mathematical debate. A distinguished critic had expressed surprise that the Royal Institute should devote an evening to these purely theoretic problems. The answer might be given by Symonds' apothegm, "Learning cannot come amiss to those who understand its use." At this late hour [11 o'clock] he would content himself by observing that the term "symmetry," which Mr. Hambidge used so freely, required some definition before they qualified it with such adjectives as "static" and "dynamic." Mathematical "proportion" was not artistic proportion: the first was absolute, the second spiritual: not axiomatic, but a matter of delicate personal perception, none the less definite that it could not be reduced to rule varying to infinity according to situation. It was really a sixth sense: no two figures, no two plants, no two buildings, were alike. But, the connection between accepted beauty of proportion and the human figure was, to his mind, undoubted.

Mr. HAMBIDGE (in reply), answering the point raised by Sir Cecil Smith, said that men who were restricted in their design output must, if they were sincere, act more or less according to a certain line, and it was not a question whether they were conscious of what they were doing if they produced their results and if their rudder was set in a certain direction. Musicians worked according to certain lines, and did astounding things. Some curious things in Greek pottery had been discovered which were unsuspected, and they were led to question the idea of critics that these potters were such ordinary men. For example, there was a man named Tleson, who was the son of a potter, and the brother of a potter. Dr. Caskey, in Boston, had found a delectable kylix made by him: apparently he always signed his work. This man Tleson made kylikes all his life: he made black-figured pots. But there was one red-figured pot by him at Naples. He had noticed in the British Museum, in Catalogue 4, other examples by him. The three examples he had seen were corroborative of Dr. Caskey's example in Boston. They showed a man

struggling between the static type of what seemed to be a fairly late date, and one where he had almost reached the point of change. The example in Boston showed a complete change. When at Cambridge the other day, he noticed, in the Fitzwilliam Museum, another Tleson kylix. He measured it, and found it was an exact duplicate of one in the British Museum, the only difference being a slight one due to a shrinkage in the clay. It was static, because it was designed in two squares, and men did not make two squares fortuitously. The one in the British Museum and the one in the Fitzwilliam Museum were exactly a square-and-a-half: every detail was explicitly in the terms of two squares or a square-and-a-half. The one in Boston showed the dynamic arrangement. In Tleson's work, they had almost perfect examples of a man first using a measuring scheme of the linear unit changing to one of an incommensurable linear scheme, and one of a commensurable area scheme. He thought the architects in New York had done the best thing: they immediately subscribed for eight lectures, and every possible angle and point had been thrashed out. The only thing to do was to take these examples and go into them analytically, have them explained with the drawings made by disinterested people, with all the measurements accurate. If they did that, a revelation awaited them. The human-figure question of type measurement was opposed to everything understood in modern times. The great mistake was made by Vitruvius, a Roman, who said in his book on Architecture that the Greeks were carrying out certain principles of Greek symmetry that they derived from the human figure, and they were said to do this because members of the human frame were commensurable with the whole, and he assumed it was commensurable with the line. That had persisted to this day, with the effect of corrupting everything which had been written on the human figure for two thousand years. If we took the skeleton, or the live figure, and interpreted the area, we had something which was entirely unknown before.

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## REVIEWS.

### THE LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE.

*The Daily Mail*: Ideal Labour-Saving Home. La. 40. 1920. 5s. net. [Associated Newspapers, Ltd., Carmelite House, Carmelite Street, E.C.]

Whatever are the results of such a competition as that instituted by the *Daily Mail* for the best labour-saving house, there can be no doubt as to its usefulness as a stimulant to thought in a very important direction. If the use of electricity had been encouraged to the full by the authorities and the public we should probably in that way alone have advanced in a very material degree towards labour-saving reform. As it is, we have much to be grateful for in the enterprise of gas producers for much improvement in household efficiency and comfort. It is obviously of great import-

ance that the architect should so design his building as to save labour and economise space and to take the fullest advantage of every labour-saving device : in doing so, however, he is in some danger of losing architectural values by concentrating too much on a small space and missing that air of comfort and pleasant proportions which is so essential a feature in a good home. It is well that all the more notable designs and details which the *Daily Mail* competition has drawn forth are now available in book form, which has just been issued. With commendable clearness and good arrangement we have here about 70 well-filled pages which deserve study and critical consideration. Hints of value are here in plenty, both of what to adopt and what to avoid, for there is probably not one design which could be fully commended in all essentials, clever as many of them are. For instance, the first-placed design fairly bristles with cupboards and is most economically planned, but the sizes and proportions of the rooms and the rhythmical placing of the windows may be said to break the link between the practical and the artistic which we all desire to see. Where economy and labour-saving are the essence of the scheme we might have asked to be saved the raised parapet wall in the centre of the front, and have somehow got a little better light into the service lobby. The plate-glass balustrade to the stairs with its bronze mesh may be more readily cleaned than nicely turned balusters, but in this case one might argue that one would prefer to endure a little extra labour. Of all the houses shown I think I should prefer to live in and to look at that by W. A. Greener, though another design has a w.c. for each of the four bedrooms, and another the appearance of a small town hall. It would be impossible in a brief notice to do justice to the skill of so many competitors ; but for those who have not won a place and for those who did not compete it is consoling to know that there is a vast amount of room yet for well conceived architectural effort in this subject.

T. RAFFLES DAVISON [*Hon. A.*].

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Future of Architectural Education.

8, Grafton Street, Bond Street, W.1.  
6th March, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR.—As one of the number—a fairly large number, I should judge—of unofficial members who wanted to take part in the discussion of Mr. Waterhouse's paper on 16th February, and found no opportunity of doing so, I should like, if it is not too late, to offer some remarks in the form of a letter.

Charming as Mr. Waterhouse's discourse on "The Future of Architectural Education" admittedly was, I, for one, felt somewhat in the position of the hungry sheep who look up and are not fed. I had hoped, after the interval of years during which the war has kept

me out of touch with the trend of architectural thought, to learn in what direction progress was tending, what fresh ideas were coming into being, what hopes and fears existed for the future where education was concerned. Instead of this, I found myself listening to a discourse, not on the future of architectural education, but on the future of architectural examinations, which is hardly the same thing.

This, I confess, disappointed me, and I was further disappointed when speaker after speaker, or—to be more accurate—professor after professor, got up to declare that all was for the best in the best of all possible examinations. I gathered from sounds of dissent which came from the back part of the hall, where the younger members gather, that I was not alone in my disappointment, and I own that my sympathies are on the side of youthful impatience. I am, it is true, no longer young, but I can still be impatient.

Looking through the syllabus of the examinations I feel there is still room for a vital improvement on the educational side. I cannot go as far as my old master, George Aitchison, who declared that nothing should be taught but construction, though he did not make me the subject of an experiment in that direction. But I do suggest that the archaeological side of architectural history, which I see is still insisted on in the Intermediate Examination, should disappear, and the history of architecture be taught, not according to Fergusson or Fletcher, but according to Choisy : the history of architecture, that is, as arising from structural development and necessity, with insistence on the importance of proportion and congruity—the importance of style, in fact, and not of styles.

I do not think that, if this radical change is made, we need fear any dearth of men to interest themselves in the detailed history and archaeology of architecture, and hand on the torch of learning, for nothing will prevent men with such tastes from pursuing their studies on this side of their profession in conjunction with the practice of it. It is later in the student's life that such studies can be most efficiently pursued, and I think that if proper encouragement is given later, this side of architectural education may safely be left alone at first. The proper encouragement would be to make it possible, if not obligatory, for travelling students to publish some monograph, either on an individual building or a branch of some period. The Institute might print this, in some such *format* as that of the JOURNAL, bound in paper, and with plenty of illustrations. In this way a body of detailed and accurate information, which is now lost, would be built up, and the reproach removed which the absence of such publications brings down upon British scholarship.

In this way, I think, it would be possible to meet the objection which my proposal is sure to evoke, and at the same time do a service to the cause of architectural education in general.—Yours faithfully,

AMBROSE POYNTER [*F.*].

**"Dividing the Profession."**

*Tunbridge Wells, 9th March, 1920.*

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

DEAR SIR.—In my opinion it is a matter for regret that Mr. Payne should have written in such a depreciatory manner regarding the Licentiate class of member. Moreover, to state that they were elected without any qualifications is quite incorrect. Not only were exhaustive inquiries made as to their standing and history, but, if I remember aright, not less than three sets of working plans and designs of different works or buildings actually designed and carried out by themselves had to be submitted to the Examining Body before their claims were considered. I well remember the remarks of a member at the time of these examinations; he considered that the fact that plans of works actually designed and carried out by the candidate were passed by the Examining Committee was a greater proof that the former possessed the qualifications to practise than the student who had passed the technical examinations of the Institute but had no practical experience or personal responsibility in carrying works through. I think there was some truth in his remarks. At any rate, the Licentiate appears to have done pretty well in competitions, and when up against Associates, too. Even in the recent Housing Competition the Licentiate was "on top," and the writer could give a personal instance. It is a dangerous thing to write in such a strain as your correspondent has, for sometimes it may have a boomerang effect. Yours faithfully,

HENRY ELWIG. *Liverpool.*

*Bedford Park, W.4 13th March, 1920.*

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

DEAR SIR.—Without any disrespect to Mr. Sydney Perks I ask to be excused at the present moment for declining to discuss at length the subject of his letter printed in your current issue, because it is my last wish to hamper in any way the cause of the desirable unification of the profession, concerning which a scheme is to be brought forward at the meeting convened by the Council for 22nd March. Whenever I have found myself in agreement with Mr. Perks I have not hesitated to say so, and he will remember that I willingly co-operated with him in other ways which I need not mention now. I therefore with the more assurance can claim his forbearance at this time. I am not in the least shirking either the subject-matter or the details which he has thought fit to print by way of retort to my last letter. He says that if I had inquired into the genesis of the Report issued under seal and published in the JOURNAL on 10th December 1904 about Official Architects, it would have spared him the trouble of looking up "some old papers" (showing presumably the hole-and-corner character of the whole thing). As it happens, I inspected the published proceedings and gave references accordingly, but the minutes of the Committees and Council Meetings held when this matter was considered and decided have never been published and therefore

are not available to ordinary members. It is, however, difficult to accept the condensed extract furnished from the minutes by Mr. Perks as covering what took place when the Allied Societies discussed the report and authorised their Presidents to sign it, as well as the President and Council at headquarters.

I began this correspondence in your pages on 20th December last in consequence of the attitude of the minority at our General Business Meeting held on 1st December, when they charged the Council with risking a division of our ranks. Attempts to belittle any manifesto authorised by the Institute are obviously calculated to inspire discord and do more harm than good. Till this report dealing with the position of Official Architects has been amended or rescinded it remains in force. This is the constitutional position. With Mr. Perks's permission let us, therefore, leave the subject at that and try to further a comprehensive plan for unity of action for our craft.—Yours faithfully,

MAURICE B. ADAMS [F.].

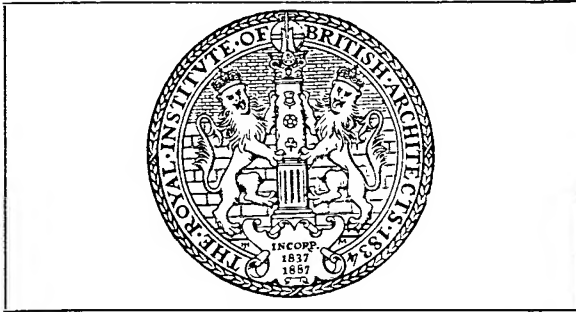
**PHILIP COLDWELL THICKNESSE [F.].**

The late Mr. P. C. Thicknesse was born on 28th January, 1860. He was the third son of Bishop Thicknesse, who is still living, at the age of 91, at Peterborough, and of Anne, the daughter of Mr. R. A. Thicknesse, for some years before his death M.P. for Wigan. He was educated at Marlborough College and after leaving school was articled to Mr. R. Norman Shaw, R.A., from whom he absorbed, himself an eager and vigorous man, the enthusiasm in his profession which was shared by all the pupils of that distinguished architect. In 1884 he entered into a partnership with Mr. W. E. Willink under the style of Messrs. Willink and Thicknesse, a partnership which lasted until his death.

Mr. Thicknesse in his work displayed unusual versatility. He was an incessant worker, and enjoyed his work, the result being to him of greater importance than the reward. He was responsible for much domestic work, a good deal of ecclesiastical work, educational work of various kinds, elementary schools, secondary schools, public schools and university laboratories, and one of his great joys was to design the decoration of liners, in which he had great experience. His most important work was the Cunard Building at Liverpool, which has been much praised by all professional men who know it.

Mr. Thicknesse came of a notable family who from father to son for over 500 years occupied the same old manor near Crewe, on the borders of Cheshire and Staffordshire. He married Clara Margaret, the eldest daughter of John Oakley, the well-known Dean of Manchester. Mr. Thicknesse had the invaluable quality of making friends wherever he went, of people in every rank, and he will be greatly missed by many of the contractors and workmen who carried out the work he planned.

W. E. WILLINK [F.].



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 20th March 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

The following names for the Roll of Honour [see JOURNAL 10th January] have been kindly notified :

#### *Fallen in the War.*

- AITKEN, JAMES HUNTER, Lieut., Black Watch [Student]. Killed in action.  
 BEATTIE-BROWN, WM., Capt., Northumberland Fusiliers [Licentiate]. Killed in action.  
 SKIPWITH, FRANK PEYTON, Major, Royal Scots Fusiliers [Licentiate]. Killed in action.  
 SPURWAY, GEORGE VIVYAN, M.C. [Student]. Killed in action.  
 SWINTON, JAMES GIBSON, Lieut., Black Watch [Student]. Killed in action.

#### *War Honours.*

- BLUHM, QUENTIN MANGNALL, Major [F.]. Awarded the D.S.O. for gallantry in action in Gallipoli, June 4th, 1915, when he was severely wounded.

The *Court Circular* announces that at the Investiture held by the King at Buckingham Palace on the 17th inst., Lt.-Col. Peter G. Fry, D.S.O. [F.], was introduced into His Majesty's presence and invested with the Insignia of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

### Mr. Hall's Paper on American Department Stores.

The Paper on American Department Stores read by Mr. Austen Hall [F.] at the Institute on the 15th March represented the gist of the material collected by the author during a visit to the United States in the autumn of last year for the purpose of his Report as Godwin Bursar, 1919. A condition attached to the Bursary is that the holder shall make a visit of not less than five weeks' duration to some part of Europe or America, especially to study, examine and report on some of the best specimens of modern planning, modern modes of construction, drainage, water supply, ventilation, etc. Mr. Hall chose as his subject of study the planning of the best types of American store buildings, and visited for his purpose New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Washington, and other cities. The planning, construction, general arrangements, fittings, and other details of the most typical of

these buildings were described by Mr. Hall at the meeting last Monday, and were illustrated by an interesting series of slides, some of them expressly prepared for the occasion and others kindly lent by Mr. Gordon Selfridge. Among the visitors present were Mr. Gordon Selfridge; Mr. R. Millbourne and Mr. H. L. Cabuche (Messrs. John Barker and Co.); Mr. G. M. Phillips (Peter Robinson, Ltd.), Mr. C. Rowley (Messrs. Debenham), Mr. H. J. Clarke (Messrs. Selfridge and Co.), Mr. E. M. Gamage (Messrs. Gamage), and Annan Bryce, M.P. The discussion which followed the Paper was contributed to by Mr. Gordon Selfridge, Mr. John Murray [F.], Mr. R. Millbourne, Mr. Vincent Harris [F.], Mr. H. J. Clarke, Mr. Edwin T. Hall [F.], Sir Henry Tanner [F.], Mr. J. J. Joass [F.], Mr. Robt. Atkinson [F.], and the President. Reference was made by several of the speakers to the vexatious and wholly unnecessary restrictions imposed by the London Building Act, which handicap very heavily the reasonable development of building property in London, and it was suggested that a strong Committee should be set up to devise ways and means of bringing about some amendment of the Act. Mr. Hall's Paper, together with some of the illustrations and the discussion, will be published in the next number of the JOURNAL.

### Attendances at Council Meetings : Nominations for the House List.

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS, F.S.A. [F.], at the Business Meeting of the 1st inst. duly brought forward the resolution of which he had given notice—viz. : "That in the opinion of this Meeting no member should be nominated by the Council for re-election unless he has attended at least half of the Council meetings—this rule not to apply in exceptional cases, which should be explained in the JOURNAL."

Mr. Perks said that he hoped this was a harmless resolution, and one which everybody could agree with in principle. If it passed it would not, of course, be binding on the Council, but it would be the expressed opinion of the meeting; he had worded it so that it should only apply to the Council, though if passed it should apply to the Standing Committees as well. It would be remembered that after the list of attendances was published last year the architectural papers called attention to the poor attendances of certain members of the Council. Yet those members were nominated for re-election by the Council. He had looked up the matter and found that out of a total of 21 meetings two members attended only 7 times, two only 5 times, two only 4 times, two only 3 times, one member only attended twice, one only once, and one member never attended at all. There may, of course, have been exceptional circumstances in those cases: such as illness, or absence abroad. For instance, Mr. Lanchester was now in India, and obviously could not attend. Another well-known member of the Council was doing national work, and was engaged at his office often until 11 o'clock at night; he would not always be able to attend the Council. He had therefore worded his resolution so that the rule should not apply in exceptional cases. It might be said that one attendance of some celebrated man was as good as ten attendances of another man: but by no stretch of arithmetic could that argument be applied to a man who never attended at all! Men who put in such bad attendances

were worse than useless. Not only did they neglect the Institute business, but they kept out other men who might attend to it. He himself had been on the Council and he had found that when the subject of nominations for the next Council was on the agenda, there would be a record attendance. The business being brought forward, someone would say, "Well, gentlemen, we have to make up the House list. All the present members of Council who are eligible, I move that they be nominated." And the man who had perhaps made only two attendances said, "I will second that with pleasure." A large amount of moral courage was required to oppose anything of that sort. At one meeting a man, a personal friend of his, who he was not even aware was on the Council, put in an appearance for the first time that session. Looking at the agenda, and seeing the word "nominations," he knew why his friend had come! It wanted a good deal of moral courage to say, "Here is my friend —, he has never attended our meetings and I don't think we ought to nominate him." The rule proposed would be very useful to the Council and would protect them from having that strain put upon their friendships. He therefore moved the resolution which was printed in his name.

Mr. A. W. S. CROSS, *Vice-President*, seconded. The resolution, he said, was one of such an innocuous nature that, as a member of the Council, he had very much pleasure not only in seconding it, but in welcoming the proposal. It would have the effect of strengthening the Council's hands when the time came to make up the House list of candidates for next session.

The PRESIDENT, having invited discussion on the question and no one rising, observed that the resolution had been proposed in the most moderate and considerate terms, and the Council could take no exception to it. In regard to the last sentence, however, that in exceptional cases the reasons for non-attendance should be explained in the JOURNAL, that, he felt, would lead them into difficulties. Could they imagine that anybody whom they wished to elect to the Council and who had had his case "explained" in the JOURNAL would ever consent to take his seat on that Council again? Personally, he did not. As far as non-attendances went, the Council were in a difficult position. Many men—often by reason of their eminence in the profession and the constant duties which that involved—found it difficult to attend regularly. Still, the Institute as a whole was glad to have those men on the Council, knowing that they could be called upon on any special occasion when their advice and assistance were wanted. Their names were a valuable asset to the Institute and their advice and services when specially required were still more valuable. Attendance at the meetings of the present Council was extraordinarily good. There had never been such regular, such interested and devoted attendance as now. (Applause.) He could vouch for that without any hesitation at all. Speaking on behalf of the Council he would offer no opposition to the resolution, he thought it would, if anything, strengthen the Council's hands. If Mr. PERKS would withdraw the words "which should be explained in the JOURNAL," no one need hesitate to accept it.

Mr. PERKS and his second having agreed to the suggestion, the resolution as amended was put to the vote and was carried unanimously.

#### The Present Method of Banning Competitions.

The following letters are published at the request of the Hon. Secretary of the Competitions Committee:—

*Northern Architectural Association, 6, Higham Place,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne: 2nd March, 1920.*

*The Secretary R.I.B.A.—*

DEAR SIR,—The Council of this Association have had before them your letter of the 19th inst., instructing

members of the Institute not to take part in the Skipton War Memorial competition. Having regard to the large number of competitions for public works where the conditions are unsatisfactory my Council has decided to ask the Institute—

1. Whether some method can be devised whereby all conditions of competition for such works shall be submitted to the Royal Institute before the competition is advertised

2. The advertisement in each case to distinctly state that the conditions have been approved by the Royal Institute.

3. That members of the Royal Institute who apply for such conditions where this approval does not appear in the advertisement shall be deemed to be guilty of unprofessional conduct.

I am requested to say that the existing method of banning competitions after the conditions have been issued and after would-be competitors have in many cases paid their guineas for copies of the conditions with the consequent encouragement thus given to the promoters of such competitions, is in every way unsatisfactory.

Yours truly,

GEO. T. BROWN.

*Hon. Sec. Northern A.A.*

15th March, 1920.

*Geo. T. Brown, Esq., Hon. Sec. Northern A.A.—*

DEAR SIR.—Your letter of 2nd March to the Secretary R.I.B.A. has been before my Committee for consideration, and they instruct me to reply as follows:—

The Competitions Committee is aware that the present method of banning competitions is not entirely satisfactory, but you will realise I am sure with us that any alternative method is at the present time impracticable. As to the points you raise:—

1. The Committee considers that the R.I.B.A. could not well set themselves up as the only body suitable to judge of the conditions for competitions, and insist upon such conditions being first sent to them and approved before being made public. So long as the Society of Architects and other bodies are in separate existence they can state a case along these lines as well as the R.I.B.A. If, however, subsequently these bodies become merged under one head it might be practicable to carry out some such suggestion as you make.

- 2 and 3. These would then naturally follow.

The Committee, however, wish me to point out that members of the Institute who receive conditions for competitions which are not in accordance with the conditions laid down by the R.I.B.A., should at once forward those conditions to the Institute, which will take the necessary steps to get them put in order. Members, however, who neglect to follow this obvious course and pursue the preparation of drawings where conditions are unsatisfactory have no cause to complain as far as the Institute is concerned if later they find the competition banned. Every endeavour is being made to protect the interests of members, and it is reasonable to expect their co-operation to this end. It would be well, I think, if you, as Secretary to the Northern Architectural Association, would be good enough to make public this position and use your best endeavours to inform us as early as possible of any irregular conditions for competitions within your area.

Yours very truly,

HERBERT A. WELCH,

*Hon. Sec. Competitions Committee*



**Housing: Points settled by the Ministry of Health.**

*Housing.* the organ of the Housing Department of the Ministry of Health, gives in its issue of 1st March the following information on points arising in the Ministry's correspondence:—

**BUILDINGS.—Materials.—Damp-proof Course.**—A cement and sand damp course would not be regarded by the Ministry as satisfactory, whatever waterproofing compound might be used. A course so constructed would be simply an ordinary brick joint, and might not be thicker than the other joints. It is necessary for a damp course to be composed of either an elastic waterproof material or of an impervious, tough material which will not crack with the smallest degree of settlement in the wall.

**Construction.—Walls.**—A local authority proposed to build houses with walls built with bricks on edge, with an intervening cavity of two inches, and having the two thicknesses tied together by ordinary wall ties.

The Ministry saw no objection to the proposal if sufficient wall ties were used. There should be not less than six ties to every superficial yard in courses every 12 inches high.

There should also be a solid beaming, both at first floor and roof level, to receive the floor and roof plates. This solid beaming must be of the full thickness of the wall, with a bitumen or other damp course to carry away condensed moisture on the inner face of the outer skin to the exterior. The wall would have the same foundation as is required in the Standard Specification, and must be filled in solid from the foundation concrete up to within three inches of the damp courses, which must be separated for each part of the wall.

**INTERPRETATION.—Regulations under Section 1 of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919—One-Storey Dwellings.**—The Ministry consider that in the case of one-storey buildings, in respect of which a grant is applied for under Section 1 of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, the rooms may be dealt with under Part I (c) of Schedule I. of the Regulations governing the grants. It should, however, be stipulated, where necessary, that the head of the windows shall be not lower than 6 feet 6 inches, as provided in Clause 48 of the Ministry's "Manual on the Preparation of State-aided Housing Schemes," and that proper head-room against the walls shall be provided for furniture in accordance with 7 of Appendix IV. of the Manual.

**FINANCE.—Extra Remuneration to Permanent Employees of Local Authority.**—The scale of remuneration under III. of General Housing Memorandum No. 2 does not include remuneration for preparation of quantities, which may be paid for at half the rate allowed to outside surveyors by II. of General Housing Memorandum No. 4, subject to the limitation as to total remuneration imposed by (b) of General Housing Memorandum No. 2.

**Conversion of Houses into Flats: Relaxation of By-laws.**

The communications which passed between the London County Council and the London Housing Board on the question of the relaxation of building by-laws in connection with the conversion of houses into flats have resulted in the production of a scheme by the officers of the two bodies which has secured the approval of the Council and of the Ministry of Health. Particulars of the scheme are set out in the recommendation of the Building Acts Committee of the London County Council which came up for consideration at the L.C.C. meeting on the 9th inst. and was adopted as follows:—

That the application to schemes for the conversion of houses into flats under the instructions of the London

Housing Board of the resolution No. 1 (a) of 7th October, 1919, with regard to the conversion of houses into flats be terminated, and that the following arrangements with the London Housing Board with regard to such schemes be approved:—

(i) That in all cases of buildings exceeding 2,500 square feet in area, shop premises exceeding 1,000 square feet in area and buildings exceeding 125,000 cubic feet, in which the London Building Act, 1894, requires fire-resisting construction and the provisions relating thereto are relaxed, the following requirements will be insisted upon by the London Housing Board in approving plans: (1) The main staircases to be protected from direct risk of fire from all rooms (*i.e.*, the approach from any room to the main staircases to be by way of a corridor or lobby); (2) such staircases, where not already enclosed, to be enclosed with fire-resisting material; (3) access to be provided from the top of such staircases to the roof, and, if possible, to an adjoining roof; (4) in cases in which approach to the main staircases cannot be arranged by way of a corridor or lobby and the rooms open directly on to the stairs or landings thereto, so that there will be a direct fire risk from any room to the stairs, a screen to be provided to prevent smoke and flame ascending the stairs and thus preventing access to the roof; and (5) all new enclosures to staircases, including glazing, to be in fire-resisting material, except in the case of doors of 1½-inch deal throughout or doors sheathed with fire-resisting material on the inside.

(ii) That in all cases in which accommodation is provided for more than 20 persons (*i.e.*, two persons a bedroom), the London Housing Board will, in approving plans, require similar provision as regards means of escape and fire protection to be made.

(iii) That in all cases in which access to the roof is required under the London Building Acts, the London Housing Board will require proper access to the roof with the necessary guard rails and protection, or, as an alternative, some other efficient means of escape.

(iv) That in all cases in which a floor is at a height of 50 feet or more above the pavement level, the London Housing Board will require alternative means of escape, independent of the main staircase, from such floors to an adjoining building or to the ground level.

(v) That the London Housing Board will require roofs of shops projecting 7 feet or more to be of fire-resisting construction.

(vi) That if the above suggestions be reasonably carried out the provisions of the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act, 1905, will not be further insisted upon.

(vii) That the London Housing Board will notify District Surveyors of their intention to approve plans of proposed conversions, and will afford them facilities to inspect the plans at Wellington House, Buckingham Gate.

(viii)\*

(ix) That in all cases of rooms (not previously occupied as habitable rooms) to be converted into habitable rooms, the London Housing Board will require the provisions of the London Building Act, 1894, as to window areas to be complied with.

(x) That, subject to the above provisions being met, the Council will raise no objection to the non-observance of the provisions of Part VI. of the London Building Act, 1894, so far as regards construction in relation to the works to be carried out and the existing work in connection with such conversions.

(xi) That in the event of a difference arising under the foregoing arrangements between the District Surveyor and the authority carrying out conversion work, the matter in

\* Clause viii was struck out by the Council the clause reading as follows:

That in the construction or formation of a room for habitable purposes in place of a room or space not so previously used, the London Housing Board will require that it shall be at least 8 feet in height throughout half its area.

dispute shall be referred to the London Housing Commissioner and the Superintending Architect to determine, subject to the option of the Superintending Architect to refer any exceptional case to the Council.

#### The London County Council and the City Churches.

In April 1918 a Commission was appointed by the Bishop of London to inquire into "(a) the circumstances of the ecclesiastical parishes and benefices within the City of London in respect to the income of the incumbents and funds available for the maintenance of lecturers and assistant curates and lay church officers, for the maintenance of fabrics of the churches and of the services therein, and for other church purposes in respect of the population resident and non-resident served by the churches respectively and collectively; and in respect to any provision made by special services and other means to extend the usefulness of the churches beyond the mere parochial needs; (b) the rearrangement or regrouping of parishes and benefices which might with advantage be promoted under the Union of Parishes Act, 1860, with or without the demolition of churches; (c) any other rearrangement of parishes and benefices and the endowment and funds thereof and the application of the churches and the endowments and funds to more extended uses for the benefit of the church and its members which might be made under any existing powers (or powers which might be sought from the Legislature); and to report with recommendations of any action to be taken in relation to those matters." The Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1913, made further provision for the preservation of ancient monuments. The London County Council, being a local authority for the purposes of the Act, is directly concerned in the preservation of buildings of historical, architectural or antiquarian interest, and the Local Government Records and Museums Committee of the Council, in a recent report recapitulating the purposes of the Bishop of London's Commission, appended a recommendation that the Council would view with great concern the removal of any church possessing features of architectural, historical or antiquarian interest, and trusts that the Commission would give the most careful consideration to this point of view in connection with their enquiry.

#### Sale of City Churches.

*The Times* of the 16th inst. gives the following forecast of the Commission's Report:—

The Commission which is inquiring into the necessity of retaining so many churches in the City has not yet considered its report, though every effort is being made to have it ready for the Bishop of London by Easter.

It is understood, however, that the Commission will not suggest the sale of more than three or possibly four of these churches. They are not likely to desire the destruction of buildings, even if these have no good claim to be spared except their architectural interest.

There are at present about 50 churches in the City, and the resident population is presumed to be about 13,000. Many of them are used extensively for devotional purposes by those who work during the day in the City, and any alterations that may be attempted will be in the direction of increasing rather than diminishing those facilities.

It must not be expected that a large sum of money will be available even if three or four churches are closed and their sites sold. It is not possible to sell any of the ancient

churchyards, and the cost of removing and re-interring the dead is generally considerable. It is understood that the Commission are favourably disposed to some of the old isolated towers, which are likely to be spared.

#### Remaking Ruined France.

Under the above heading, in *The Times* of 11th March, a special correspondent gives an interesting account of the progress which is being made in housing the people who are returning to the towns and villages in the devastated areas:—

The vast majority (he says) are living in ruined houses, which have been "rendered inhabitable"—an elastic expression which may cover anything from a comparatively water-tight cellar to a patched room or two in a building with a tarpaulin roof.

Meanwhile, the problem of lodging homeless inhabitants and imported workmen pending rebuilding had to be faced. The frightful difficulty was that before a town could be rebuilt the ruins had to be cleared. In some cases, indeed, as at Chauny, where the Germans mined the cellars, this was comparatively easy, for instead of a house there is a hole. But it is obvious that one cannot live and build on the same spot at the same time. Consequently there is a population of more than 100,000 living in huts.

The plan adopted has been to erect little villages of huts on open spaces inside, or immediately outside, the town or village to be rebuilt. These huts are of various kinds, not all equally satisfactory. Among them are Nyssen huts—double semi-circular corrugated iron shelters, raised on brick walls some 4 ft. high, with external chimney. These are divided into a living room and two bedrooms; among the objections to them are the absence of any place for washing clothes or keeping rabbits, and the fact that, unless they are lined, the internal iron is damp with condensation. The so-called Swiss huts have a fair-sized living room and bedroom and two smaller rooms, with a kind of verandah in front, which, when partially enclosed, makes a shed; but the double wooden walls do not keep out the cold. Others are built of plaster panels which need constant repair, with roofs of tarred paper which leak; they have two rooms and an unnecessarily large shed at the back.

The "Russian" huts are comfortable; they have double wooden walls, with large air-space, and a cement floor to the living rooms: there are three bedrooms and a shed. Commonest of all are the "semi-temporary" wooden-frame brick houses, with clay joints; in some, the walls are sprayed outside with cement wash; in others, the joints are raked out and pointed with cement; they have three rooms, with cement floors, and a verandah-shed in front or behind. All alike are heated by the iron cooking stoves in the living rooms.

At Marcoing, near Cambrai, an interesting experiment was tried with hollow blocks of an agglomerate of brickdust and cement. The houses are an attractive rose-pink in colour, with four good rooms on the ground floor, attic and cellars. All internal corners are rounded, and the internal walls merely need distempering. The cheapest cost 5,000 francs (£200), and can be built in a fortnight. The entire plan includes 800 houses of this material, with spacious schools forming a group with the Mairie.

At Soissons there are being built a large number of excellent stone houses with red-tiled roofs. One of these houses, consisting of three rooms and a shed, can be built by eight men in a month. They look as if they would last for years.

Of the 14,000 houses in St. Quentin before the war, every single one was hit. Four thousand can be repaired; 6,500 have been rendered inhabitable temporarily; 1,800 brick houses have been built in November and December. It is estimated that the mere clearing up of St. Quentin will

cost 20,000,000 francs (£800,000), and that its rebuilding will come to at least 600,000,000 francs (£24,000,000)

Lens is a more terrible sight even than St. Quentin. It has often been described, and no description approaches the reality. In the midst of the grimy remains of a gigantic game of spillikins a population of 6,600 out of 35,000 is living in surroundings of which we in England can form no conception. There is, however, a hospital. There is also a school, where the children, though backward, as is inevitable after their broken education, look fairly well. The main sewer has been cleaned. What, however, gives thought to the engineers is how they are going to get rid of the water from the pits.

#### The Nurse Cavell Memorial.

The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, represented the Institute at the unveiling by Queen Alexandra of the Cavell Memorial in St. Martin's Place, Westminster, on the 17th inst. The memorial, which is the work of Sir George Frampton, R.A. [*Hon. A.*], is situated in the middle of the wide roadway between St. Martin's Church and the National Gallery, a short distance to the north of Trafalgar Square. The monument is of granite, specially quarried in Cornwall, and is surmounted by an emblem of Humanity, symbolised by a woman nursing a child. There is a beautiful representation of the tall, graceful figure of the heroine, looking towards the south, and at the foot is the simple inscription: "Edith Cavell, Brussels, Dawn, Oct. 12, 1915." The words "Humanity," "Devotion," "Fortitude," and "Sacrifice" are inscribed on the four broad facias of the monument; and above these are the words "For King and Country," and "Faithful unto Death."

#### Empire Timber Exhibition, July 5-17, 1920.

The Department of Overseas Trade is organising an Exhibition of Timbers grown within the British Empire to take place at the Holland Park Skating Rink, London, from the 5th July to the 17th July, 1920. The main object of the exhibition is to bring prominently before architects, inspectors, firms who have to specify timbers in their contracts, as well as the users and consumers of timbers, the full range of Imperial grown timbers, and especially those timbers which up to the present are only very slightly, if at all, known in this country. At the same time the exhibition will demonstrate the chief uses for which such timbers are suitable. The classification embraces:—(a) Specimens of timber; (b) exhibits demonstrating the various uses to which timbers are put, viz., floors, panelling, staircases, furniture, ply-wood, and articles of everyday use; (c) wood pulp. A committee has been formed to arrange all details connected with the exhibition, and includes representatives of: Colonial Office, Crown Agents for the Colonies, Government of India, Self-Governing Dominions, Forestry Commission, British Societies interested in the production and utilisation of timber.

#### Neglect of the Country's Famous Trees.

Mr. Henry J. Elwes, F.R.S., lecturing before the members of the Gilbert White Fellowship recently, said there was a very considerable number of trees in this country whose use had been entirely neglected during the last three or four generations. In old houses

in England and Scotland might be seen beautiful cabinets made entirely of English woods, and rooms panelled with oak, much better than they could be panelled to-day. If British architects and builders only knew our resources they would not have to go outside their own parish. He had seen a church in Northumberland in which the pews were made from British cherry: and he had been able to panel a room with the wood from a single cherry-tree that was cut down in Surrey and sold at 4d. a foot. The neglect of the woods from our country was due, he explained, partly to the ignorance of the architects and builders, and partly to the fact that they had been able to obtain unlimited supplies from other parts of the world at little more than the cost of carriage; the result being that they would not take the trouble to look about their own country. Sir John Stirling-Maxwell had told him in a letter that some of the finest Scottish hard woods were being sold as foreign timber, simply because those who drew up specifications stipulated that they must be certain kinds of timber from abroad. There was an immense amount of fraud in all trades connected with timber, some intentional fraud and some through ignorance.—Professor Boulger, in moving a vote of thanks for the lecture, lamented the way in which the trees of the London streets are maltreated by the authorities' employees. Only in the squares of Bloomsbury could they be seen growing in their natural form.

#### Proposed New Engineering Laboratories at University College.

An appeal is being made with the approval of the Senate of the University of London for funds for the reconstruction and re-equipment of the Engineering Buildings at University College. The Engineering School is the pioneer school in London. It was founded in 1828, and, under a number of Engineers, eminent in teaching as well as in the practice of their profession, has educated a succession of Engineers, many of whom have attained great distinction. The time has now arrived to undertake the reconstruction and re-equipment of the School, and it cannot be deferred without great detriment to its future usefulness and efficiency. The last reconstruction took place in 1893, when the present buildings were erected and occupied. The existing accommodation has become quite insufficient for the number of students now in attendance. Moreover, the teaching of Municipal Hydraulic, Heating and Ventilating Engineering necessitates additional accommodation. Fortunately space for extension is available, and plans have already been drawn for the provision of two additional floors on the present site and the reconstruction of part of the adjacent South Wing in such a way as to provide more lecture rooms and accommodation for the various Departments. Space will also be available for a Hydraulic Laboratory suited to modern requirements, in which the existing teaching of Hydraulic Engineering can be continued under much improved conditions. The Engineering Committee are satisfied that, having regard to the prices which obtain at present, and which are likely to continue to obtain for some time, the sum required for the reconstruction and re-equipment of the buildings is £100,000. Of this sum a portion estimated at £25,000 to £30,000 would be reserved as a Capital Fund to provide an annual

income for the renewal of the equipment of the Department in future years.

The Chairman of the Equipment and Endowment Committee is Sir Alexander B. W. Kennedy, and the Hon. Treasurer Sir Ernest Moir, Bart. Donations may be sent to the President of the Committee, H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught, 42 Upper Grosvenor Street, W., or to the Hon. Treasurer of University College.

#### Victoria and Albert Museum.

The Department of Paintings and the Department of Engraving, Illustration and Design have received several important bequests and gifts during the past year. Sir Frank Short, R.A., P.R.E., has presented 160 of his mezzotints, aquatints, and etchings, in memory of his son, Captain Leslie Short, who died on active service 3rd June, 1916. This gift, in addition to prints already in the Museum, makes the Museum collection of Short's work probably the largest and most complete in existence. In memory of Sir Charles Holroyd, R.E., late Director of the National Gallery, two of his water-colours and 43 etchings have been given by Lady Holroyd, again making the Museum collection of special value to students. Shortly before her death in 1919, Mrs. Merrick Head—to show her appreciation of the Historical Collection of water-colours in the Museum—presented 17 water-colours and 13 etchings by Samuel Palmer, who, at the beginning of his long career, was in close association with Blake and Calvert. Several of the drawings date from his honeymoon tour through Italy in 1839-1840, and belong to a period of the artist's finest work, not hitherto adequately represented in any public collection. Bernard H. Webb, the architect, was always a warm friend of the Museum, to which, at his death in 1919, he bequeathed all his collections. Among these are a large number of water-colours and pastels of the British School, a considerable collection of drawings by Old Masters, and a large series of modern drawings, etchings and woodcuts. The family of the late Captain Guy Baker, in accordance with his expressed wishes, presented 27 water-colour drawings by Wyndham Lewis. This collection is representative of the artist's work in the years preceding the war, and strikes a modern note among the Museum collections. The same remark applies to a series of drawings presented by Messrs. Ezra Pound and C. Lovat Fraser, showing different phases of the work of H. Gaudier-Brzeska, who died on active service in France at the early age of 24. A selection from these gifts and bequests is on view in the East Hall of the Museum; and among other gifts there shown are water-colours and drawings by J. Baverstock Knight, H. Edridge, John Glover, Burne-Jones, C. A. Hunt, A.R.W.S., Romilly Fadden, Blamire Young, R.B.A., John Wright, A.R.E., and Lovat Fraser. Among some purchases on view is a series of four studies by Degas for his oil painting in the Ionides Collection of the ballet scene from Meyerbeer's "Roberto il Diavolo."

It is hoped shortly to place on view in Room 132 a large number of other gifts and purchases made during 1919.

#### The Rome Scholarships.

The Final Examination for the British School at Rome Scholarship and the Henry Jarvis Studentship in Architecture will be held in the rooms of the Institute from the 19th April to the 8th May. All particulars about these Examinations may be obtained from Mr. Evelyn Shaw, Hon. General Secretary, British School at Rome, 54, Victoria Street, S.W.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

### Meeting of Monday, March 1st, 1920.

UNIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF THE PROFESSION.—The Council unanimously approved the Report of the Charter Committee and ordered a Special General Meeting to be summoned to consider the proposals recommended by the Committee. The meeting will be held on 22nd March.

EXHIBITION OF "LAY-OUT" PLANS.—The "Layout" Plans which were exhibited at Olympia during the "Ideal Home" Exhibition will be on view in the R.I.B.A. Galleries until further notice.

R.I.B.A. PRIZE DRAWINGS.—A Selection was made from the Prize Drawings exhibited at the R.I.B.A. in January and will be sent on tour among the Allied Societies in the United Kingdom.

R.I.B.A. WAR MEMORIAL.—The conditions of a competition, limited to Service men, for the R.I.B.A. War Memorial, were settled.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.—Mr. George Hubbard was appointed in place of Mr. Paul Waterhouse as the representative of the R.I.B.A. on the Interviewing Board at the Ministry of Labour.

BRITISH ENGINEERING STANDARDS ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Digby L. Solomon was appointed as the representative of the R.I.B.A. on the sub-Committee for the Standardisation of Copper-Alloy Fittings.

MEMBERSHIP.—Four members were re-instated.

## ALLIED SOCIETIES.

### Birmingham Architectural Association.

#### A TALK ON HOUSING SCHEMES.

The Tenth General Meeting of the session was held at the Association's rooms, Royal Society of Artists' Buildings, New Street, Birmingham, on Friday, 5th March. The President, Mr. H. T. Buckland [F.], took the chair, and 60 members were present. The proceedings took the form of "A Talk on Housing Schemes," the chief speakers being Mr. Henry E. Farmer [F.] (Housing Commissioner for Birmingham and the West Midlands), Mr. W. A. Harvey [F.], and Mr. J. Crouch [F.].

So much has been said, officially and unofficially, so much has been written on the housing question, said Mr. Farmer, that he did not presume to do more than give a brief address on the subject from a Commissioner's point of view, and even in this he wished to address his remarks to the young architects present, whose opportunities of knowing the position as it appears to him have been necessarily limited by their absence on sterner work, but who now desire, in their patriotism, to do something more for the good of humanity.

The Housing Commissioner asserted that architects had not yet impressed the community with a due sense of their value. The public (and—tell it not in Gath, whisper it only at the gate of the city with the motto "Forward"—many well-fed councillors) are far from clear as to the functions of architects. Architects are modest and unassuming, having turned their pencils into bayonets they fought their way through a bloody war; their fighting

spirit is well alive to-day, and it is up to them not to lie down and lick their sores, but to be up preaching the gospel until the misunderstandings and doubts are removed and housing is in their hands, and the people's homes a comfort to live in and a joy to behold.

Dealing with various regulations, the speaker said that Section 1 (3) of the Housing Act, 1919, provided for the employment by a local authority of an architect selected from a panel of architects nominated for the purpose by the R.I.B.A. The net result of the Ministry's policy was that 50 per cent. of the housing schemes were in architects' hands, and it was fair to say that but for the Ministry's action a very small percentage, if any, would have been carried out by architects. How many, or rather how few, houses of the working classes were designed by architects previous to the passing of the Housing and Town Planning Act of last year?

The Ministry laid it down in Appendix 4 of the Manual issued to local authorities on 8th April, 1919, that competent architects should be employed to plan and design the houses to be erected. A scale of charges was agreed with the R.I.B.A., and as no fee was at that time, or until months later, allowed to a Borough Surveyor in respect of plans prepared by him, every inducement was offered to place the work in architects' hands. The officials of the Ministry made it their personal concern to see that this was clear to the Councils when they were called in: almost immediately, on the site inspection, they issued a questionnaire requiring expert consideration, and asked for the architects to accompany them upon the visit. Time and trouble in dealing with the lay-outs would have been saved if this course had been adopted, and much anguish spared the officials in the filling in of the necessary forms.

This did not apply to Birmingham and some other large towns, where an architectural staff was in existence. The objections raised by various Councils do not appear to warrant the appointment of the Borough Surveyor to carry out this work, and in many instances this excellent official objected strongly to more work being thrust upon him.

The local authorities were entrusted with the carrying out of the housing schemes and guaranteed against any annual loss in excess of the produce of a penny rate. Assistance was also offered to County Councils for housing their employees, and also to approved public utility societies.

The local authorities were at first anxious to proceed, but the subject was new to many, who felt the need of stepping carefully in schemes which must inevitably prove a heavy undertaking. The housing survey was not sent in until 31st October last, and so the general need of each local authority was a little difficult to ascertain: the calculation of an outlying district might be upset by the opening up or closing down of a factory or by the building of a small colony by an adjoining urban authority outside their area. The liability of each district is, it is true, limited to a penny rate, but the need for additional schools and of buildings had to be carefully considered. The need has frequently been felt for a co-ordinating authority to deal broadly with the full matters relating to housing, town planning, transit, arterial roads, etc., for the city and the planetary township which adjoins its boundaries. The whole proposals of surrounding areas should be put before this authority, and unification of methods determined in relation to the great central scheme. It is useless and meaningless to dot garden villages about the boundaries of

a great city if no works are in existence, or to be provided for the residents, if transit is neglected.

The Ministry issued a Manual dealing with housing for the guidance of local authorities and their architects, wherein the maximum areas of the ground floor plans were laid down:—

(A) Living room, scullery, and 3 bedrooms—maxima, outside 11 inch walls, 578 super.

(B) Parlour, living room, scullery and 3 bedrooms, 620 super.

(B4) Parlour, living room, scullery and 4 bedrooms, 650 super.

Central passage way not included, and if floors differ on ground and first floor the area of each added together must not exceed twice the super area mentioned.

The general proportions of various types are:—

A	..	..	..	60	per cent.
B	..	..	..	35	..
B4	..	..	..	5	..

It has been considered advisable in some cases to allow a proportion not exceeding 5 per cent. of the type A with two bedrooms only.

The parlour fight still rages, and is particularly rampant in rural areas, where frequently all parlour types are asked for. It is a far better thing that a family should have a large living room with a bay recess for the children's homework than that two small rooms should be demanded.

The extravagant waste of cube in the tiled roof is general, and if tiles are desirable the wall plate should be lowered as much as practicable. The unnecessary projections on the score of architectural effect, and the want of appreciation of the effect to be obtained by skilful lay-out, run up the cost. Even the despised "brick box with a slate lid" can be effectively treated so that it becomes a thing of beauty. Gretna and Queen's Ferry illustrate what can be done with a simple standardised type of house laid out by the hand of a master of town planning. The fear of women is *not* the beginning of wisdom in the lavish provision of cupboards. The dresser, mangle, perambulator, etc., should be carefully arranged for on the plan, but we do not want them in the estimate.

Economies in detail must be rigidly enforced, and many sanguinary battles are waged in our architect's lair over such matters as the saving effected by a straight flight of stairs, thus standardised, as also all the doors and windows of a cottage should be.

The w.c. upstairs is nearly always a mistake, with its necessarily expensive plumbing: so also is the lavatory basin in the bath-room.

Other important questions are the grouping of sanitary arrangements, so essential for economy in plumbing; the shallow depth house, as opposed to the more costly building of a square type.

DELAY.—Much delay occurred at first through various causes:—

1. The acquisition of sites—one cannot buy a yard of land over the counter.

2. The quantity surveyor could not, or did not, work to the scheduled time.

3. Some architects either had trouble with their Councils or were too busy.

So, from a variety of causes it became evident that we were not getting the actual houses. All sorts of expedients were suggested, and the sub-editors of *The Daily Mail* put their heads together. Wooden houses did not catch fire in

this region, but all sorts of special construction were suggested, and a large number have been approved by the Ministry. The majority of these are very disappointing. We must interest ourselves in the subject and endeavour to design a house of good special construction on sound commercial lines, keeping in mind the following points:—

1. The lack of skilled labour, which will be still more serious very soon.
  2. The difficulty of transport.
  3. The necessity for speedy erection.
  4. The shortage of bricks and cement.
  5. The shortage of plasterers especially.
- The Dorman Long system would appear to be the best of the tried special forms of construction.

#### HOUSING (ADDITIONAL POWERS) ACT, 1919.

It was felt that from a variety of causes the actual building of houses was not proceeding sufficiently rapidly, and so the Housing (Additional Powers) Act was passed on 23rd December last. Under this Act grants to private persons are permissible.

Circular 39B (House Builders) was issued. One of the chief obstacles to the building of working-class houses has been the diversion of the resources of the building trade into other channels. Large arrears of repair work, build-ings of less urgency than housing, have been put in hand all over the country, whilst the cry of production has echoed through the streets. How can a man produce under the present conditions? His nights are filled with music, but the "cares that infest the day" do *not* "fold their tents like the Arabs and as silently steal away." He rises unrefreshed and goes sluggishly to work, and we feed him on "production."

The new Act enables a local authority to prohibit "luxury" building, and "luxury" is a wide term. It will be wise for us to consider the position in the light of authentic figures, which show that we have not the skilled labour or the materials ordinarily used in house building to carry us through the projected housing schemes already approved, together with only such outside work as is most urgently required, and therefore we assume that priority for housing will be drastically enforced. The representatives both of the builders and trade unions have agreed to this.

The agreement made between the Minister of Health and the Association of House Builders provides that the builder may submit a plan of land having existing road frontage, or existing road frontage and roads shown that he proposes to construct, with the lay-out of the houses thereon, together with 1-inch scale drawings of the houses to be built thereon, with a draft specification. The Ministry's Model Specification will be supplied to the builder for his guidance, and the construction of the houses which he proposes to erect shall not be inferior to the standard of the Model Specification. The builder should obtain the approval of the Commissioner both to the plans and to the cost at which the local authority are to purchase.

At the first meeting in Birmingham with the Builders' Association offers for 5,000 houses to be built under this scheme were made by responsible men.

The consent of the builder has been obtained to erect type plans instead of those deposited by him, and at no extra cost, and if the builders proposing to build under this scheme will agree to employ architects who are known to be imbued with a strong horse sense as to economy of construction, many difficulties will be overcome. Just now,

with interest so centred on cost, the strictly practical man may neglect the all-important matter of design and appearance, and unsightliness may creep in. There is no danger of the new street of to-day becoming the shum of to-morrow, but there is a very real danger that this street may become as baldly uninteresting and depressing as the streets of houses built by the so-called practical builder of yesterday.

**SUBSIDY.**—The Ministry of Health Memorandum defines the conditions on which grants will be paid to private persons or bodies of persons constructing houses under the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919. The object of the subsidy on which an expenditure of 15 millions for the United Kingdom is authorised is to secure the erection of 100,000 houses during this year.

In order to rank for grant a house must be begun after the 23rd December, 1919, and completed before the 23rd December, 1920, but it is provided that if the house is completed between 23rd December, 1920, and the 23rd April, 1921, a reduced grant will be payable provided the Minister is satisfied that the failure to complete the house by the 23rd December, 1920, is due to circumstances over which the person constructing the house had no control.

The amount of grant payable will be:—

(a) In respect of houses containing living room, parlour and three or four bedrooms, and comprising not less than 920 super feet of floor area, £160 per house.

(b) Living room and three bedrooms, 750 super feet floor area, £140 per house.

(c) Living room and two bedrooms, 700 super feet, £130 per house.

The number of two-bedroomed houses in any district will be limited.

If a form of construction is employed for which, in the case of a local authority's scheme, the Ministry of Health will not sanction a loan for a period exceeding 40 years, the amount of grant per house will be reduced by *one-third*.

It is a condition of the grant that the houses shall comply with the conditions as to planning and construction which are laid down in the Schedule of the Memorandum: the number of houses per acre must not exceed 8 in agricultural areas, in other areas the standard should be 12, but on land partly developed it will be within the discretion of the local authority to allow a larger number not exceeding 20.

The prescribed conditions allow as much latitude as is consistent with the conditions required under State-aided schemes.

In order to obtain a grant, a person must, before beginning to build, submit plans to the local authority, and obtain from them a certificate (Certificate A) authorising the construction of the houses and specifying the grants which will be payable if the conditions are complied with. When the houses are completed he must obtain another certificate (Certificate B) from the local authority certifying that the houses have been completed fit for occupation in a proper and workmanlike manner, and this certificate will show the date of completion. With these certificates the person concerned will apply to the Ministry of Health for the grant which the Minister will pay.

A fortune awaits the architect who invents a construction in which an entirely new and reasonably cheap material can be used.

Mr. J. Crouch emphasised the importance of lay-out. Even quite plain houses may in time come to look all right if the lay-out is well planned. Generally speaking, in a large scheme the existing main roads and the necessity of



linking up the various outlying districts will suggest the main lines to be followed in working out a scheme: the natural features, the desire to preserve or emphasise, provide further motives, and imagination and experience do the rest.

Many of our existing garden suburbs fail because their designers neglected to provide definite points of interest in their scheme. It is of the utmost importance to provide one or more dominating features.

In regard to house plans, the Tudor Walters Report set a high standard, but the cost of many of the schemes frightened the authorities at Whitehall, and lately there has been a tendency to lower the standard set up in the earlier instructions.

Mr. J. P. Bridgwater, M.S.A., of Messrs. Ingall, Bridgwater and Porter, the winners of the City of Birmingham Selly Oak Road Site Housing Competition, in proposing a vote of thanks, said he thought Mr. Farmer's address was evidence of his willingness to render all the help he could to architects within his region.

The Government allowance of 30 per cent. to public utility societies seems insufficient, on that basis an economic rent for the houses would be three times pre-war rent, and people could not be expected to pay such an increase. In Birmingham, the £850 house would have to let at 33s. per week, inclusive of rates at 17s. in the £.

While 50 per cent. of the housing schemes are being carried out under architects' supervision, it is up to us as individual architects and as an Association to prove that it is worth while for Housing Committees to employ us. The financial problem is the one on which Housing Committees are laying chief stress, and it was suggested that it might be an advantage to erect houses which, while not being extra in cost, would still have some aesthetic value.

In concluding, Mr. Bridgwater said he thought that instead of 50 per cent. the whole of the houses should be in the hands of trained architects: better results, he was sure, would be obtained.

Mr. A. Harrison [F.], in seconding the vote of thanks, called attention to the Pine Apple Farm Housing Scheme Competition. When architects were first asked to compete the conditions were such that no self-respecting man could submit designs. Modifications were subsequently made, however, almost at the last moment, and a number of architects sent in plans. Mr. Harrison's plans were placed first, but more than six months elapsed before he received instructions of any kind. As one might expect, during this lapse of time prices had increased very considerably, and the estimates had to be accordingly revised.

Major Travers and other members spoke in support of the vote, which was afterwards put to the meeting and unanimously carried.

#### The Ulster Society of Architects.

The Report just issued of the Council of the Ulster Society of Architects is the first issued since 1915. The Society continues to progress, and with the acquisition of a number of new Members and Associates is numerically stronger than at any previous period of its history. During the war the work of the Council consisted in a large measure of work in connection with enlistment, rationing of materials, distribution of materials after the war, &c., in conjunction with the Ministry of Public Health and the War Committee of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Sixteen of the Members and Associates and students joined His Majesty's Forces in different capacities, and out of the number four made the supreme sacrifice. The Council, in

conjunction with the Belfast Builders Association, has revised the Conditions of Contract, which have now been brought up to date in accordance with the altered conditions prevailing. The new Conditions have been approved by the general body of the society, and will in future form the basis of agreement in all contracts made between the members of the Ulster Society of Architects and the Belfast Builders' Association. At the invitation of the Library and Technical Committee of the Belfast Corporation to co-operate with them in forming a syllabus for the Architectural Course at the Technical Institute, a sub-committee of the Council, in conjunction with the Principal of the Institute, drafted the syllabus, and this has been in operation since 1916. Suitable rooms for the society's meetings have been secured at Messrs. Johnston, Graham & Co.'s offices, 8, Ocean Buildings. When the Belfast Housing Scheme was in process of formation under the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Act, the Council approached the Belfast Corporation urging that the work should be entrusted to a Board of Architects chosen by the Corporation from the members of the society. The Corporation adopted the suggestions, and the personnel of the Board chosen by the Corporation has been approved by the Local Government Board for Ireland. The plans have been prepared, together with the specifications and bills of quantities, and are now awaiting the instructions of the Housing Committee for the taking of tenders. It is hoped that building operations will commence at an early date. The Londonderry Committee of the society has secured the Londonderry Housing Scheme on lines similar to the Belfast agreement. The reports show that the Londonderry Committee is in a very sound condition, and the society is to be congratulated on having such a loyal committee in charge of the northern district of Ulster.

#### MINUTES. X.

At the Tenth General Meeting (Ordinary), held Monday, 15th March 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair: 29 Fellows (including 10 members of the Council), 44 Associates (including 3 members of the Council), 10 Licentiates, and numerous visitors—the Minutes of the meeting held 1st March 1920, having been published in the *JOURNAL*, were taken as read and signed as correct.

Mr. Wilfrid Lawson [F.], attending for the first time since his election, was formally admitted by the President.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of the following Licentiates: George Ogden and Arthur John Pearson Carrington.

A Paper on THE PLANNING OF SOME AMERICAN DEPARTMENT STORES by Mr. H. Austen Hall [F.], *Godwin Bursar* 1919, having been read by the author and illustrated by lantern slides, a discussion ensued, and on the motion of Mr. Gordon Selfridge, seconded by Mr. John Murray [F.], a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Hall by acclamation.

The proceedings terminated at 10.15 p.m.

#### Appointments.

The Senate of the University of London, acting on the recommendation of the Institute Council, have appointed Mr. Paul Waterhouse, M.A.Oxon. [F.], and Mr. Arthur Keen [F.] to be members of the Architectural Education Committee of the University of London for the year commencing 1st March, 1920.

Mr. E. C. P. Monson [F.] has been appointed a member of the Light Castings sub-committee under the Building Materials Committee of the Profiteering Act Department.



## COMPETITIONS.

### Hornsey War Memorial.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above competition are unsatisfactory. The Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of getting the conditions amended, and meanwhile they advise Members and Licentiates to take no part in the competition.

### Peterborough and District War Memorial : New Infirmary.

The President has appointed Mr. Edwin T. Hall as Assessor in the above competition.

## THE EXAMINATIONS.

### Building Surveying.

Examinations for Certificates of Competency to act as District Surveyor under the London Building Acts, 1894-1909, and as Building Surveyor under Local Acts and Authorities, will be held in London on April 28th, 29th and 30th, 1920. Applications should be sent to the Secretary R.I.B.A. on or before April 12th.

### The Country's Town Planning Schemes : Exhibition of Drawings at the Institute.

At the suggestion of Professor S. D. Adshead [F.], the Council have decided to exhibit in the R.I.B.A. Galleries the town plans and layout schemes prepared under the Housing Acts which were a prominent feature of the recent exhibition at Olympia. These drawings have been contributed by architects from all parts of the country, and some fifty important schemes are included. The exhibition will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily till further notice.

### Palestine Exploration : Volunteers Wanted.

Sir Frederic Kenyon writes: "Notice has recently appeared in the Press to the effect that the British School of Archaeology at Jerusalem is shortly about to commence active work in Palestine. The Director is proceeding to Palestine in a few days from now, and the organising committee is anxious to hear of volunteers who would like to take part in the early work of exploration to be undertaken this summer. Such volunteers should be university graduates, should preferably have served in Palestine or Mesopotamia, and should be possessed of good health; it would also be a great advantage that they should have at their disposal a motor-cycle and side-car. Applications and inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary of the School, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W.1."

### Professional Notice.

Mr. Theodore Fyfe [F.] has opened an office at 2, Gray's Inn Square, W.1. Telephone, 2126.

ARCHITECT (A R.I.B.A.), energetic and capable, with many years' varied experience, including quantities, and who has carried out large and important work, desires Partnership in an office with good prospects, or appointment as Chief Assistant with a view to Partnership—Address Box 4220 c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

## NOTICES.

### Special General Meeting, 29th March : Election of Royal Gold Medallist, 1920.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING will be held Monday, 29th March, 1920, at 8 p.m., for the following purpose:—

To elect the Royal Gold Medallist for 1920. The Chairman to move: "That subject to His Majesty's gracious sanction the Royal Gold Medal for the promotion of Architecture be presented this year to M. Charles Louis Girault, Membre de l'Institut de France [*Hon. Com. M.*], in recognition of the merit of his executed work."

### General Meeting (Ordinary), 29th March : Higher Buildings for London.

The ELEVENTH GENERAL MEETING (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20 will be held Monday, 29th March, immediately following the above Special Meeting, for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the meetings held Monday, 15th March; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the following Paper:—

#### HIGHER BUILDINGS FOR LONDON

By DELISSA JOSEPH [F.].

### General Meeting (Ordinary), 12th April : Architecture in India.

The TWELFTH GENERAL MEETING (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20 will be held Monday, 12th April, for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held Monday, 29th March; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the following Paper:—

#### ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA.

By JOHN BEGG [F.].

R.I.B.A. CALENDAR, 1919-20 - *Erratum*—The date of Mr. Delissa Joseph's election to the Fellowship is 1889, not 1899 as printed.

ASSISTANT required for firm of Architects in Cape Province, South Africa. Immediate Partner now in London and would interview. Passage paid on 2 years' agreement. Salary say £20 to £35 per month. Capacity: Making working drawings from sketch plans, specifications from rough notes, quantities and usual routine of a general practice. Also Service man with Provincial or Colonial training preferred. Communicate with Victor T. Jones, F.C.I.A., M.S.A., Constitution Club, London, W.C.2.

ARCHITECT, with offices Bedford Row Street, is prepared to share same. Held of general drawing office and entire use of private room. Write Box 1120 c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of city architect to the Corporation of Calcutta. Salary 1,500 rupees per month. Candidates must be members of the R.I.B.A. Full particulars are given on page 101 of the advertisements in JOURNAL R.I.B.A. of 6th March.

AN ASSOCIATE, restarting in practice, having a large experience in factory and domestic work, is prepared to assist other architects in his own office. Address: "H. G." c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

PARTNERSHIP. Architect with work in hand desires Partnership in established practice out of London (south in counties preferred). Willing to purchase or invest. Address Box 1620 c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.



THE GORHAM BUILDING, NEW YORK (McKim, Mead and White, Architects).

## THE PLANNING OF SOME AMERICAN DEPARTMENT STORES.

By H. AUSTEN HALL [*F.*]. *Godwin Bursar*. 1919.

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 15th March, 1920.

IT is my desire to bring to your notice some of the recent store buildings in the United States, particularly the practical requirements of their planning and the principles governing their design. I am aware that what I have to say will not be new to those who have made a study of the subject, particularly when I remind you that no new stores of importance have been erected for the last five years owing to the War; but if a review of the matter from the American standpoint is of value to us, as I think it is, it will be of interest to all who are concerned with commercial buildings of this nature.

The principal considerations which affect the planning of the large stores in America must be understood before a detailed study of the subject can be profitably followed. The object of the building being for the display and sale of goods, it follows that everything must be subordinated to this purpose. The architecture must be a setting only to the merchandise that is displayed, giving value to the goods for sale without competing in interest with them. In other words, the architecture is the servant of an idea in the strictest sense.

The planning and equipment of a store will provide, first, the best possible display of merchandise; secondly, the greatest facility to the public for purchasing in comfort. Since this is really a practical problem of display and convenience, it is necessary to bear these two governing considerations in mind.

The Wanamaker store in Philadelphia (Messrs. D. H. Burnham & Co., architects) was completed in 1911, and is the largest store in America in one building, and, in my opinion, the most comprehensive for the purposes of this survey. The building occupies an entire city block, and measures 480 feet by 250 feet. It is twelve storeys high and rises 247 feet above the pavement. The basements are 34 feet below the street level, making the total height of the building itself 281 feet. The site is surrounded by streets on the four sides, which gives the opportunity for an ideal store plan.

It is interesting to recall the method employed in building, as the site was already occupied by the old store, and it was desired to interfere as little as possible with the existing buildings during demolition. The work was divided into three portions, and the excavations under the first portion were carried out before the demolition of the building. The upper part was underpinned, the basements excavated, and the foundation wall and retaining walls brought up to the state in which they were ready to receive the stanchions and superstructure—a remarkable undertaking, which was completed in nine months. The old buildings standing over the new basements were then pulled down, and the same procedure was followed in the other sections.

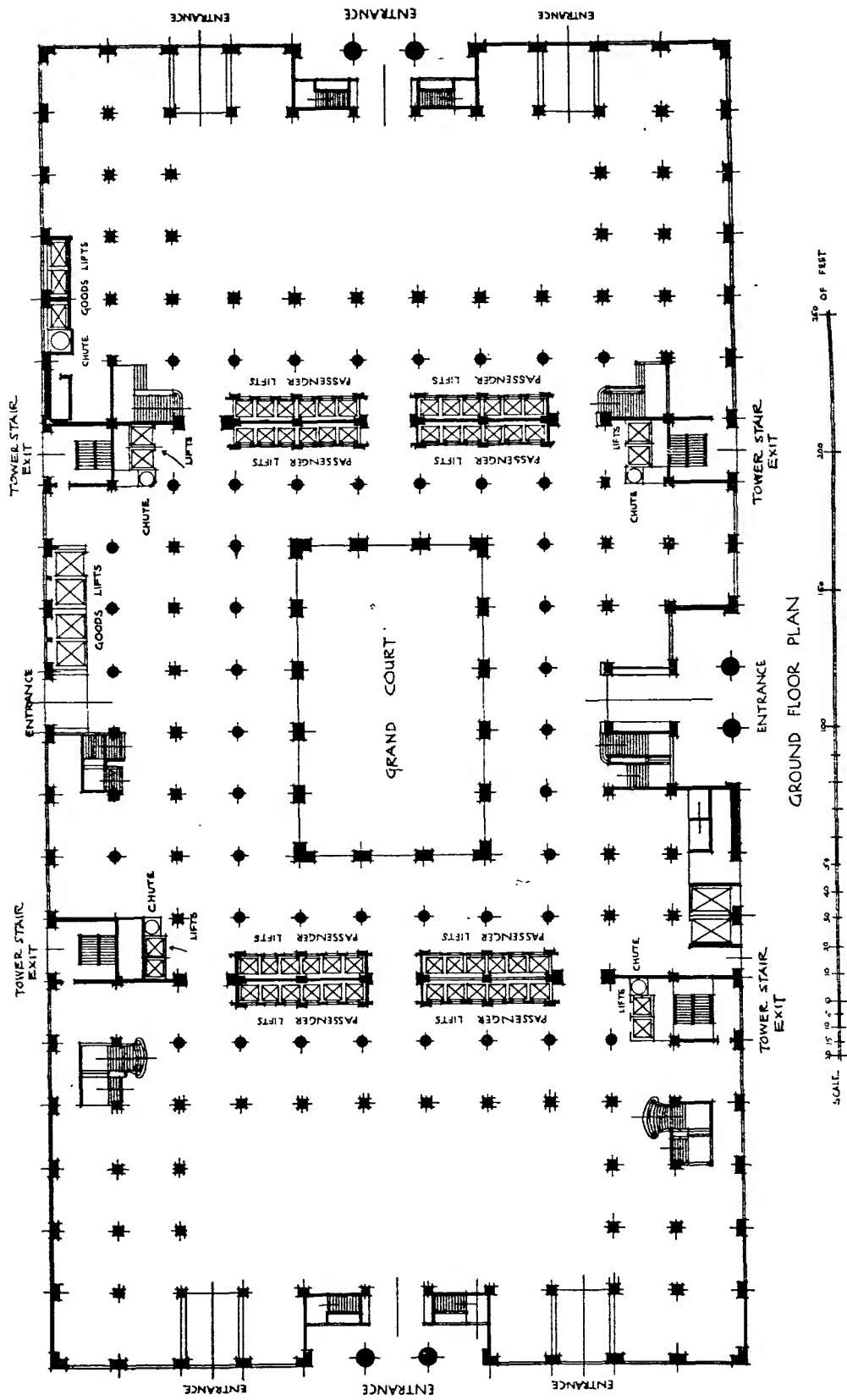
Another matter of interest in the construction of this building was the consideration given to the possibility of settlement in the ground under the enormous weight it was called upon to take, so that there should be no sign of separation in the stone joints where the sections joined up. Accurate records were taken by bench marks of the settlement during the building operations from commencement to completion. The building went down half an inch, and this was allowed for in building the subsequent portions. The calculations were exact, and there is no sign whatever of the junction of the three portions.

The entrances are arranged in the centre of each of the four fronts, and are treated in a most dignified manner. It will be noticed that no name appears anywhere outside the building.

The plan is divided into three sections by fire walls running the entire width of the building. We are familiar in London with similar regulations, but whereas our limit of open floor space (with the highest floor only 60 feet above the pavement) is 20,000 feet super, the central portion in this building is 50,000 feet super, the remaining portions 35,000 feet super each. In the new Eaton Store at Toronto they are being contemplated up to 90,000 feet super. The magnificent effect of these great spaces can only be realised by those who have seen them. Each of the fire walls has three openings in it, with fire-resisting doors and the usual fusible link device for closing automatically in case of fire. Tower escape stairs are planned at each end of the fire walls. These stairs are reached by balconies open to the air, and are planned with double decks—a stair within a stair. In addition to these escape stairs, there are six main staircases and four separate stairs to basement, making eighteen in all.

The planning of the lifts is worth close attention. These are placed along the fire walls, and on both sides in long banks. The position is central, and it will be observed that no light is obstructed by this arrangement. There is, I think, some objection to so many lifts in a straight line, because it is difficult to catch a lift if you are waiting in the wrong place in a long line of lifts. This is overcome to a great extent by making six together travelling up and six down, so that you may know where to wait. No lobbies are required outside the lifts as they are in London, with the great advantage that you can see over the whole floor from the lift in passing and get a good idea of the goods for sale. This is a valuable asset to the selling powers of each floor, the cage doors being fitted with clear glass to enable a view of the floors to be obtained. All passenger lifts are hydraulic, for greater safety and because of the perfect adjustment obtained in stopping and starting. The improvement in these respects in the design of electric lifts in recent years is resulting in a larger number being used, and I think the day for hydraulic power for lifts in these buildings is over. There are sixty-eight lifts in the building altogether, of which fifty-two are for passengers. They measure 6 feet 6 inches by 5 feet 6 inches inside the cage. In addition ten small electric lifts are installed from stock rooms to selling floors for the quick delivery of goods. These adjoin the spiral conveyers running from the top floors to sub-basement. These conveyers or chutes are four in number, constructed of steel, and made in double spirals; in one spiral parcels are carried to the basement delivery room for despatch to customers; the other spiral carries goods from the stock rooms to the selling floors below.

The spacing of stanchions, by which the plan is determined, is the first consideration in a building of this kind. The spans adopted at Wanamaker's are 22 feet 6½ inches, which appears to work well in practice. The tendency in new stores under consideration is to increase these spans. They are



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



WANAMAKER BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA. (D. H. Burnham & Co., Architects.)

being contemplated up to 25 feet 6 inches centres in the new Eaton Store at Toronto. The design of stanchion casings should be as simple as possible. The usual type employed is a plain square or round, the simpler the treatment the better, bearing in mind the subordination of architectural forms to the display of goods. The same remark applies to the ceilings; some of the vaulted and highly decorated types I have to show you undoubtedly detract attention from the goods exhibited and reduce the apparent height of the storeys.

The height of storeys varies considerably in America. Wanamaker's is designed on a lavish scale throughout, and this is expressed in the heights of the floors, which are as follows:—Ground floor, 27 feet; first floor, 24 feet; second floor, 25 feet 7 inches; remainder, 17 feet 5 inches; restaurant, 22 feet, all floor to floor measurements. These are greater heights than you usually get, but the effect is very impressive.

The feature of the interior is the grand court, 112 feet long by 66 feet wide by 150 feet high. The lower part of the walls is faced with bastard statuary marble with green Tinos bands. The upper portions are finished in plaster. A good effect is obtained by varying the design of the balconies, each alternate one being painted bronze colour instead of white, with the result that the scale is greatly improved, and the oppressive effect of many floor levels rising one above another is overcome.

Only the very largest stores adopt the principle of a central court for light. I have found that when the claims of daylight or floor space have to be weighed against each other, the floor space is invariably chosen as the most important consideration. Consequently the great majority of stores practically depend upon artificial light on all floors.

The grand organ, the largest in the world, is the centre of attraction in the store. There is a recital every morning and afternoon, and at closing time the national anthem is played. The story of this organ is typical of the American point of view. It was purchased by Mr. Wanamaker from the St. Louis Exhibition, and although it was then the largest in the world, no less than sixty new stops were added to it afterwards. It is not enough to tell an American that something is good: it must be the best, and no expense is spared to attain that object. This is the policy adopted throughout this great store, which is beautified by many pictures, bronzes and objects of art from Mr. Wanamaker's private collection. An appeal to the artistic sense of the public meets you on every hand, and is an unfailing source of interest as well as fine decoration.

The floor of the grand court, as well as that of the principal aisles, is covered with pink Tennessee marble with green Tinos bands and patterns, and looks extremely well. The upper floors are all in wood—oak, maple and hazelwood being used in various parts of the building. These are usually stained and polished to suit the colour of the fittings.

The provision of suitable fittings is in itself a special study, and I do not propose to enter into the details of these as carried out in the various buildings I have visited. With very few exceptions, the showcases, counters, etc., have not much architectural character, and, in my opinion, are inferior to those of the best stores in Paris and London. They are, however, extremely practical and, for the most part, very well made. The supreme object of display is kept in mind, glass fronts being adopted to show the contents of each compartment behind the counters and against the walls. The height is kept low—4 feet 8 inches for showcases behind counters, and 6 feet for wall cases being the average height. This enables a view of the entire store to be obtained by the public, and an effect of spaciousness is produced which is a valuable asset for business purposes.

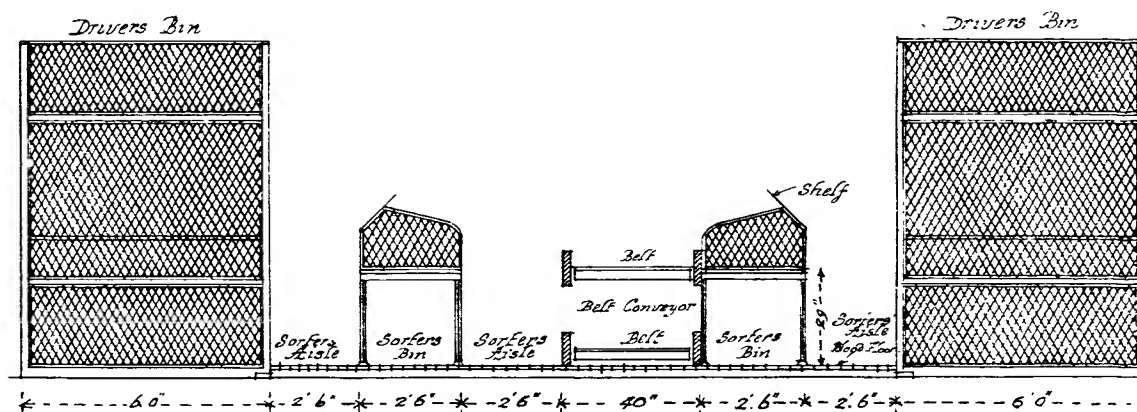
Fittings of every kind, as well as the counters, are movable, and made on the unit principle, so that they may be readily combined to form fresh arrangements to suit the manager of each department. The legs are made to screw to enable perfect adjustment to be obtained in any alterations that may be required. Any fixed points in the planning of the building—such as stanchions—should be arranged so that the flexibility of the scheme is not lessened in any way. Too much importance cannot be attached to this point.

At Wanamaker's the large court is used for evening organ recitals, and the whole of the fittings are easily cleared from this portion in an hour, and replaced after the recital to be ready for the next day's business.

On the seventh floor is the restaurant, which, with the kitchens, covers the entire area of the floor. Above this are the stockrooms. Goods are received at street level and taken up to the top of the building, where the receiving rooms, marking off and stock rooms are adjoining, a very marked difference from the practice here, where these rooms are invariably in the basement.

The despatch of merchandise to customers is a more elaborate business and requires some careful planning. The problem is to ensure safety with speed in sending purchases to the purchaser.

The delivery department is in the sub-basement, and goods are despatched down the chutes and delivered upon a moving belt (electrically driven), which carries them to the sorters' tables. Here they are divided into goods to be charged and those that have been paid for or that are cash on delivery. The former are sent by another belt to the sanctioning clerks, who refer to the customer's credit at the



SECTIONAL VIEW OF EQUIPMENT IN DISTRIBUTING STATION, WANAMAKER'S BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA

store and mark the goods O.K. or C.O.D. accordingly. The goods, being all marked with the necessary authorisation, are packed by other clerks and marked for different routes and deposited in the sheet-writers' bins, who in turn deposit them in the drivers' bins after entering the particulars on the record sheets. The drivers in turn collect from their bins into the delivery wagons. The Lamson Company are the pioneers of this delivery plant system, and I am indebted to them for much valuable information on the latest methods employed.

It has been found in some of the largest stores that even with all the best possible appliances they cannot deal with the vast number of parcels sufficiently fast. To enable them to do this they have instituted a system of decentralisation. Goods are not arranged in routes at the main building, but filled into trunks as they come and taken away in vans to distributing centres in the town. The planning of these buildings, being concerned with nothing but the problem of distribution, is extremely efficient for this purpose.

Although Wanamaker's Building is of such great size, it was decided to build a separate power-house. This is situated across the street, a tunnel, which is a conduit for pipes, connecting the buildings

The power-house contains the whole of the heating plant, electric-light generators, pumping machinery for lifts and water supply, refrigerating machinery for cold storage and iced water supply, and power generally. Some idea of the power required can be obtained from the fact that the coal bins have a capacity of 5,000 tons, and the daily consumption varies from forty to seventy tons of fuel. The whole of the heating is obtained from exhaust steam from the boilers. The usual method of bringing fresh air from the roofs is employed, the air passing through air-washers and over coils.

Great attention is given to heating the vestibule, on account of the severe climate. The theory is that the cold air coming into the building when the doors are open mixes with the warm air in the vestibule and supplies the bulk of the fresh air to the building above the ground level. The basements are treated separately, and the air changed three times an hour. The large court is a great assistance to the general ventilation.

A great deal of space is occupied by the rooms for the staff. Apart from dining-rooms and rest-rooms, opportunities for recreation are provided on the roofs, where games can be played. A staff hospital is an important part of the equipment of the building, and a doctor and nurse are always in attendance.

Every employee under eighteen years of age has to continue his studies, and a well-equipped school is conducted on the upper floors. For employees from fourteen to sixteen years of age these studies are a continuation of the elementary education already attained outside the store. From sixteen to eighteen the principles of the business are combined with higher education. This means a much larger staff among the younger people in the employ of the firm, as two hours a day are devoted to this work, but the resulting efficiency, so much sought after in America, is considered adequate return to the firm; and, of course, no charge is made for these advantages, although the education given is as good as that provided in the public schools outside.

The Filene store at Boston (D. H. Burnham & Co., architects) is unlike any other store building that I have seen. The treatment of the exterior is unique in store design, and, I think, most satisfactory. The problem here was more nearly that which we have to deal with in London—the maximum amount of glass being required on all floors. The design is practically that of a frame for the glass fronts. The solid portions of the design are carried out as a light terra-cotta surround, with the filling of green terra-cotta coverings to the stanchions. A great deal of interest is obtained in the crowning storey, and the treatment of the corners of the building is very good. The piers on the shop-front line are reduced to a minimum, but the effect of the building standing on glass is overcome by the use of projecting canopies at the angles, which makes a strong line of separation between the super-structure and the showcases on the street level.

The planning is of the usual direct type that the architects have evolved so successfully. Two entrances are provided in each street on three sides of the building, and the lifts are planned along the fourth side, where they are centrally placed and do not obstruct light. These lifts would be better in two blocks, to break up the traffic at this point, which is very congested on busy days.

The staircases are merely for purposes of escape, and no grand stair is introduced for effect. The spans of stanchions vary from 20 feet to 22 feet 6 inches. The men's department could not be planned on the ground floor owing to restriction of space, and it had to be placed on the first floor. To avoid having to go through the other departments, it is reached by an escalator immediately within one of the entrances, which gives practically direct access to the street, an important point in the business side of this department.

There is a greater use being made of escalators in the large stores. Macy's of New York have them up to the fifth floor, and it is a very pleasant way of travelling, as it enables you to see the whole area of the floor *en route*.

One peculiarity of the Filene store is the fact that stockrooms are placed on each floor, immediately adjoining the selling departments. This arrangement, however, has not been found successful, owing to the need of expansion of departments and the consequent reduction of stock-room accommodation. The selling floors are found to be too valuable to admit of any portion being used for stock purposes.

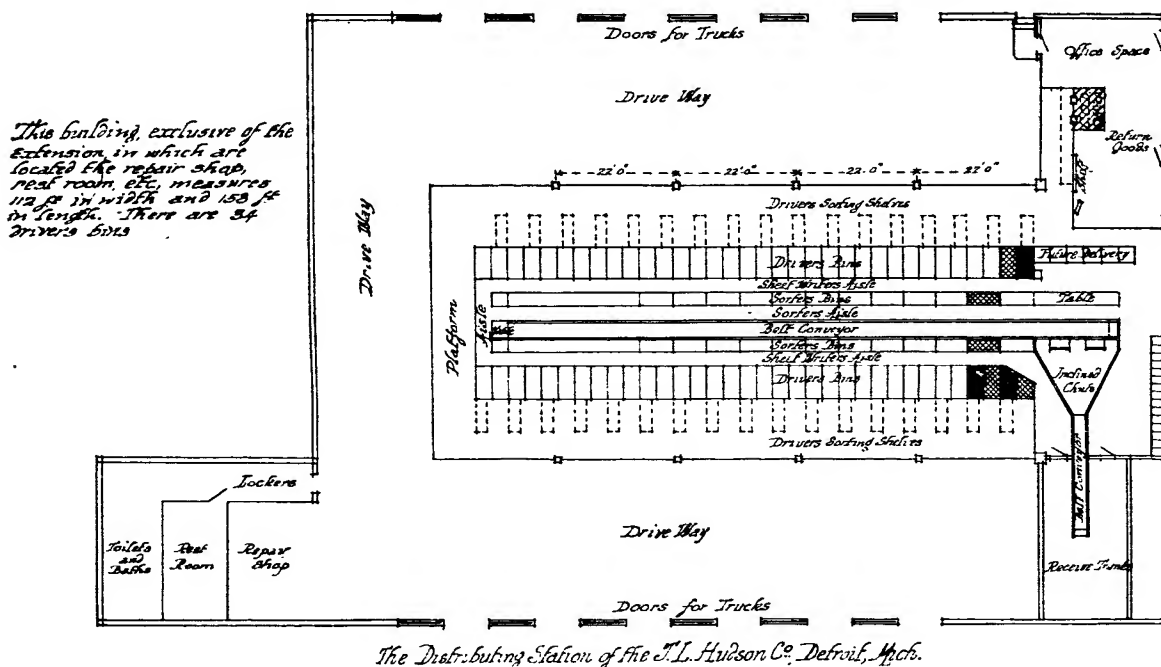
Heights of storeys: 20 feet ground floor, and 15 feet upper floors. These are considered the minimum, but owing to restriction of height in Boston it was the most that could be obtained.

Messrs. Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago, have the largest dry goods business in America, their



buildings providing floor space approaching 10,000,000 superficial feet, and giving employment to 10,000 people. Their business is spread out in several separate blocks—erected at various dates—and connected by subways under the street. The most recent of these is the men's annex, the interior of which has points of some interest, notably the central court ceiled at the second floor level, of which I have a slide. The architects are D. H. Burnham and Co.

In a store of this size the handling of goods becomes such a vast problem that it has been found necessary to decentralise the distribution department. This is situated in a separate building, in a central position in the city, and all goods are taken direct to this centre for distribution into the various routes. A typical plan of a distribution centre is shown—that of the Hudson store in Detroit. It will be noticed that a high degree of efficiency is obtained in the planning of such a centre owing to the lack of other considerations which necessarily interfere with the arrangement of a basement in the store itself, and I have extracted some notes on this subject from the *Dry Goods Economist*.



Packages are loaded into trunks at the main building without being sorted and are taken by trailers to the distributing station illustrated on the plan.

Upon arrival the contents of the trunks are emptied on to a belt conveyor, which carries them to an inclined chute. At the foot of this chute the route clerks stand, and each package is routed and placed upon the main conveyor. The sorters handle these packages and place them in the sorters' bins, from which they are taken by the sheet writers, entered on the delivery sheets and placed in the drivers' bins. These bins are opened by a handle in the sheet writers' aisle, and access can only be obtained by the drivers when the sheet writers are aware of the fact.

The sizes of the equipment shown in the plan are as follows: inclined chute, 30 inches wide to 14 feet 6 inches wide; main belt, 36 inches wide; sorters' aisles, 30 inches wide; sorters' bins, 30 inches by 6 feet; sheet writers' aisle, 30 inches wide. It will be seen in the plan that there is a driveway on three sides of the platform about 30 feet wide, which is sufficient for a vehicle to turn with ease.

There is an office for the superintendent, and one for return goods conveniently arranged for the drivers to make their returns with very little delay.

A repair shop is provided for with the very limited capacity of two cars at a time, the theory being that the smaller the number in the shop at a time the greater the concentration of the mechanics on the

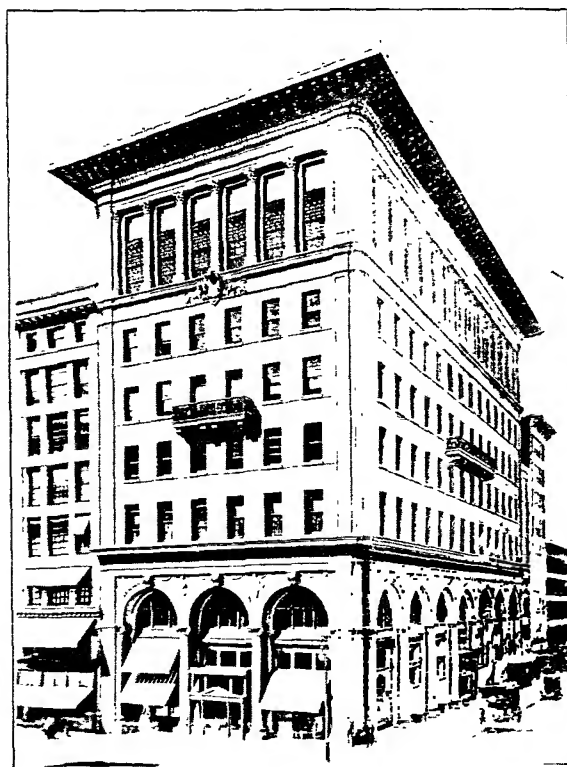
job and the less time wasted in going from one thing to another, an example of the tremendous detail with which the problem has been studied in America, and one which is typical of American thoroughness.

I have given these particulars of the Hudson Distributing Station because it is an excellent plan, and is really the arrangement to aim at in the store itself if there is the space available. All sub-basement plans of the distributing side of the business follow these lines, but are necessarily hampered by being below the street level, and therefore somewhat inaccessible, as well as being cramped for working space.

The Tiffany Building, designed by McKim, Mead & White in 1906, is one of the landmarks in Fifth Avenue. Built entirely of white marble, the excellent proportions of its classic storeys produce a most dignified effect. Internally the treatment is most elaborate, and is probably the high watermark of richness in the design of interior furnishings.



THE TIFFANY BUILDING FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.  
(McKim, Mead & White, Architects.)



THE GORHAM BUILDING, NEW YORK.  
(McKim, Mead & White, Architects.)

Particular note should be taken of the show-cases and counters of steel, inlaid with brass, the excellent design of the lift enclosures—all in polished steel—and the monumental treatment of the foot of the grand staircase.

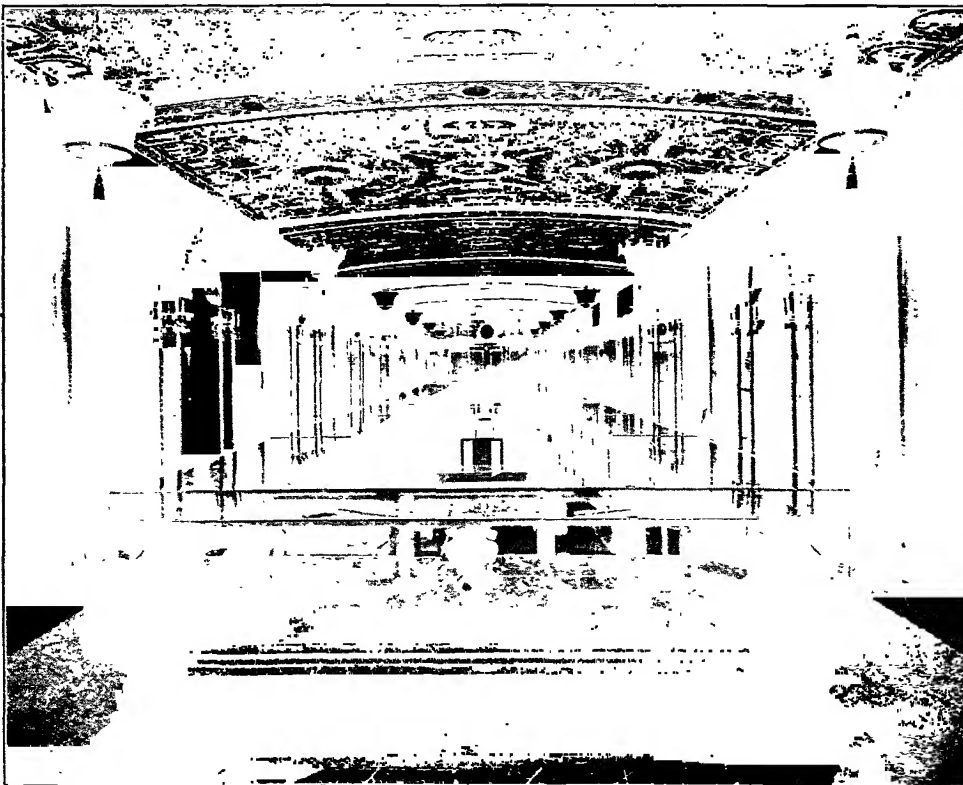
The Gorham Building is almost opposite Tiffany's and is designed by the same architects. This is entirely different in concept on from the last-named store, and although simpler in its lines it is the most gracefully proportioned building in Fifth Avenue and the model of many that have followed it.

The impress of McKim, Mead & White upon American architecture is nowhere more evident than in the influence of this beautiful building—the first and best of many of the type.

You will notice the design of the ground storey, giving a large amount of glass surface without impairing the solidity of the building. The importance of this storey is properly appreciated, the street floor being always the chief floor in a shop. The severe treatment of the remainder, except at the top, gives admirable



MESSRS. BLACK, STARR & FROST'S BUILDING, NEW YORK. (Thomas Hastings, Architect)



MESSRS. GATTLE & CO.'S BUILDING, NEW YORK. (Starrett & Van Vleck, Architects.)

proportion to the design, and the great overhanging cornice—9 feet over the street—makes a worthy finish to one of the finest designs America has produced.

The interior is marked by great richness of detail, which in this case enhances rather than detracts from the goods for sale.

Messrs. Lord & Taylor's, New York, was designed by Starrett & Van Vleck. It is one of the newest buildings in the city, completed in 1914, and a most notable addition to the architecture of Fifth Avenue.

The elevations are remarkable for the freshness and simplicity with which they are treated. The materials are limestone and brown bricks, which give a pleasant colour in combination. The influence of the Gorham Building will be apparent in this design, with marked changes in the conception of the show windows on the ground floor.

This is the latest phase of the shop window, and we have the problem reduced to its simplest form—square window openings expressing the construction, filled in with glass and bronze in ornamental patterns. The whole of the fenestration is carefully considered in relation to the imposing doorway, which is carried up through two storeys in height. Ornament is confined to the doorways; and it will be noticed that the glass face of the windows is kept flush with the stone in the small windows to preserve the solid appearance at the angles. A most rational design this, and one which finds beauty in a strict expression of the constructional and utilitarian problems it had to solve.

Internally the treatment is more elaborate than usual. The ceilings of the ground floor are vaulted, and walls and floors are finished in Roman Travertine stone, an admirable material for durability and appearance, and in great demand in New York.

Some entirely new ideas have been adopted in this store. One of these is the arrangement for dressing windows in the basement by daylight, under the pavement lights. The windows are all in duplicate, and are raised and lowered by hydraulic power, the showcases being interchangeable by means of a system of rails on the basement floor level.

The main doorway is closed by means of a rising window, which takes the place of doors when the store is shut. The top of this window case becomes the mat at the entrance when the door is open.

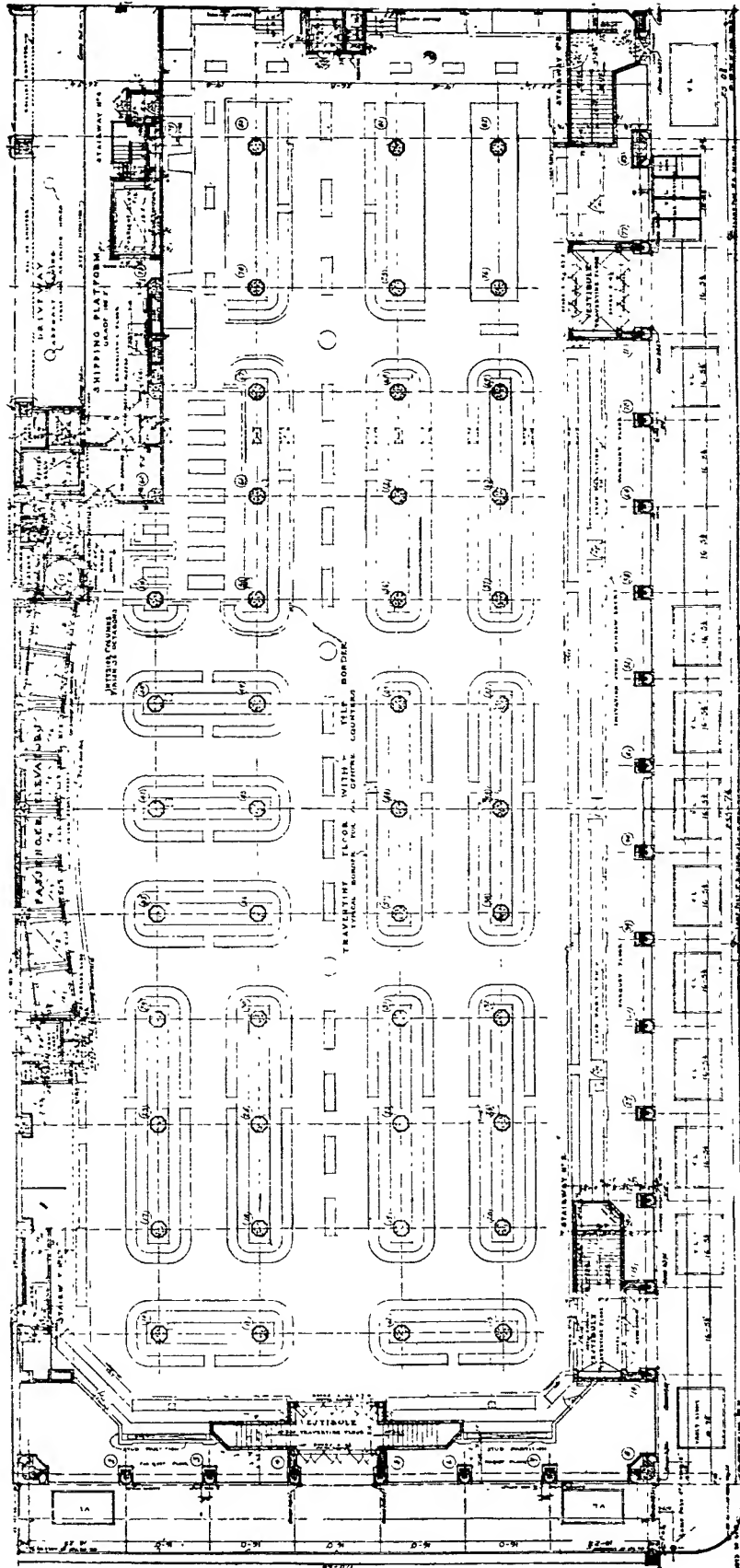
An unusual method of dealing with cash taken on the ground floor has been invented. There is a basement mezzanine, in which clerks deal with the cash from the ground floor, thus saving time and space on the principal floor. It is open to question if the advantages compensate for spoiling the basement by the loss of height necessary for the mezzanine; but as the public do not go below the ground floor, it gives some opportunity for this kind of experiment.

Messrs. Starrett & Van Vleck have also designed a very fine store at Toledo for Messrs. Lasalle & Koch. This is a later work than Lord & Taylor's, and in some respects more satisfactory. The very graceful treatment of the shop fronts will strike you as a most attractive solution of the problem, although not so logical in treatment as those in the New York store.

The same freshness and lightness of touch pervade this building, which gives a new impetus to store design. You will notice the glass fronts project between the columns to meet business requirements without any sacrifice of effect.

We have heard far too much in this country of the conflicting interests of the requirements of a modern shop front and the architecture of the building of which it forms a part. I see no difficulty in an honest solution of the problem that shall satisfy every reasonable demand—and Messrs. Lasalle & Koch's Toledo building shows one excellent way of doing it. Architecture will cease to be a national art the moment it fails to express national life, or to meet all the requirements of the age we live in with imagination and skill. Fresh problems, whether constructional or æsthetic, require fresh thought, and if we cannot find this for every emergency we shall fail in the service we desire to give.

The view of the interior shows the bank of lifts in the usual long line, which is impressive to see but less satisfactory in use. Notice should be taken of the clear glass to the upper portions, allowing



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

DEPARTMENT STORE FOR THE LASALLE & KACH CO., TOLEDO, O (Starrett & Van Vleck, Architects)

a view of the entire shopping floor to be obtained. Also the rubber mats in front of the lift cages. I do not understand why people should slip up when stepping out of a lift, but I am told they do so, and thereby have occasioned claims for broken limbs against the owners of the store. Hence the mats.

Abercrombie Fitch & Co.'s Building, New York, also by Messrs. Starrett & Van Vleck, is an example of the extreme severity with which many of the new buildings are designed. But even in this severely practical building the fenestration of the shop fronts has received that necessary degree of consideration which makes it worthy of notice. Internally the ceilings are somewhat over-elaborated, and, I think, compete far too much with the goods for sale.

Gattle & Co.'s Stores, by the same architects, show an admirable little front in strongly veined black marble. You will notice the delicacy of the bronze work and the lightness of touch in the whole thing. An interior of some magnificence is produced by the skilful use of mirrors and marble and a beautifully coloured plaster ceiling.

The Godfrey Building, New York, designed by A. L. Harman, presents some original features. The concentration of the architectural interest in the three lowest storeys is eminently reasonable. The lower portion only being for display (one of the principal objects for which the building is erected), it is made the most important part of the design. You will notice that the glass windows are kept flush with the stone face, thereby overcoming the effect which would otherwise be produced of the building standing on legs.

The premises of Messrs. Black, Starr & Frost, in New York, are of unusual interest, as we should expect from Mr. Thomas Hastings, the architect. The sculptured frieze over the shop windows is beautifully executed and could be made to tell the romance of commerce as well as making fine decoration.

The Hardman Peck building, designed by Harry Allen Jacobs, is one of the best of the smaller street fronts and is more on the scale of our average opportunity in London.

The Huber building, by J. H. Friedlander, is another admirable example of the smaller buildings on Fifth Avenue, New York. I think the red-tiled roof is not so suitable for a city as the parapet wall treatment, but several designs on these lines have lately been carried out in Fifth Avenue.

The building for Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Co., by Berlinger & Moscowitz, is one of the many beautifully executed shop fronts in Fifth Avenue. The bronze work is perfect, and this is a good example of the prolific use of this material which makes the street so interesting to an architect.

The new branch office of the Gas Corporation of New York, situated in 57th Street, is somewhat outside my subject, but the design is so admirable and so recent that I have included it purely on architectural grounds. The architects are Warren & Wetmore.

There is a small store of unusual interest in Washington designed by Appleton P. Clark. You will appreciate the great refinement and beautiful scale of this building, which illustrates the skill that is lavished upon the smallest proposition in America, a point which we do not always appreciate in this country.

My last slide is a doorway between shops giving access to offices over—a problem that has to be faced very frequently in buildings for different occupations. Mr. Charles L. Platt has produced a fine doorway without competing with the shops on either side. My only regret is that this architect, famous for his country houses, has not yet produced more commercial buildings, which could not fail to be interesting from his hand.

There are many well-known stores in America to which no reference has been made, but the selection I have put before you is typical of the best in the country. The great developments that have been made in the course of a few years are the direct result of the attention given to the problem by such architects as McKim, Mead & White, D. H. Burnham, and others who have followed in their footsteps. The ablest men in America have given their best to the advancement of this subject, with the result that Fifth Avenue is probably the finest shopping street in the world.

They have in America two things which together enable them to produce the finest modern buildings. The first thing is the immense appreciation of fine architecture by all classes of the public. The second thing is that the business man in America considers his building his best investment—not a tax on his capital—and his one idea is how to make it fine in every respect.

The immense amount of activity in this form of building in London is the measure of our opportunity; and I have no fear of the result if the problems are approached with the enthusiasm and thoroughness which American architects, and their clients, have brought to bear upon them. I am not unconscious of the handicap we work under in London, the queerness of some of our building sites, the mysteries of the law of light and air, and, most of all, the utterly out-of-date Building Acts, which, although ably administered, do more than anything else to destroy imaginative work; but still the opportunity remains for a great occasion to be greatly met.

When one thinks of the splendours contained behind the walls of our great shops—the products of every country in the world—would it not be well to ask if the buildings which house all this magnificence are really expressing their purpose adequately? Is our new Regent Street going to be the finest shopping street in the world, or will it suffer by comparison with Paris or New York? This is a matter at our very doors at the present time, and the solution is in the making. Gentlemen, it is in your hands, and it requires all the imagination, all the skill, and all the courage that you can bring to bear upon it.

I gratefully acknowledge the very kind help given to me by American architects. Mr. White, of Graham, Anderson, Probst & White; Mr. Van Vleck, of Starrett & Van Vleck; Mr. Robert Kohn, and Mr. William Emerson, who have lent me plans and photographs. I would particularly mention Mr. W. C. Haddock, building superintendent of Wanamaker's, Philadelphia, who gave me a great deal of information. Also all the business heads of the great stores who made me welcome and gave me their time ungrudgingly, and Mr. Selfridge, who has very kindly lent me some of the slides for this paper, for which I have to thank him.

In conclusion, I beg to thank this Institute for the honour they have done to me in awarding to me the Godwin Bursary, which has been of great assistance in my study of this subject.



INTERIOR—THE GORHAM BUILDING, NEW YORK.  
(McKim, Mead & White, Architects).



## DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*, in the Chair.

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characteristic American thoroughness. When he first went into an American store what struck him most was the sense of fitness which pervaded everything—all the goods were displayed to the finest advantage, and he could not help thinking that this must have an educative effect upon the people who used these stores, for the lessons they learned there would be applied in their own homes. It had been stated that the American people took a great interest in architecture. But it was more than an interest with them: they looked upon it as an essential part of their education. Americans were not troubled as we are in the laying out of buildings: they had no "Ancient Lights" problem to vex them. How that marred and mutilated a building we had plenty of illustrations to show in London. If we tackle the subject of commercial buildings in the same spirit and with the same enthusiasm as were displayed by American architects we should find there would be a revolution of values for this kind of work, and architects would reap the benefit of it.

Mr. H. J. CLARKE (Messrs. Selfridge's) said it had been his pleasure to visit America on two occasions, with the object of seeing their wonderful stores. What had impressed him most was the simplicity in the treatment of the interiors of these buildings, the freedom of motion, the absence of hindrances, and the open spaces which all were aiming at here. A building may be a lovely building, but facilities for designing their departments was what they were out for, and if they could not adequately plan their departments to give service, then the design would fail. Another feature which impressed him in America was the architect's general treatment of exteriors. At first he wondered how the architectural treatment would deal with the great heights, but the examples Mr. Hall had thrown on the screen showed how very ably the difficulty had been met.

Mr. EDWIN T. HALL [F.] said he endorsed very strongly Mr. Murray's remarks as to the restrictions we are subjected to by the Building Act. They are antiquated, and spoil any possibility of imaginative planning when a large area is being dealt with. He was associated with a building whose area was about two acres in extent, and the difficulties they had had in planning by reason of the restrictions of the Building Act had been very great. They quite prevented the large open areas which were such a feature in the large American stores. He started designing the building with spacious areas, but had to restrict them. He noticed that the American stores, as a rule, were very plain externally. No doubt that was desirable; their vastness prevented their being given an ordinary Renaissance treatment. In London, however, where heights were restricted, the architect had freer scope for the beautification of his buildings. A feature of the building in which he was concerned was an attic storey, of about 140

feet in length, of life-size sculpture, which he hoped would be an attractive feature in Regent Street. It would at all events give a good sculptor an opportunity of impressing his art on the London public. He hoped that when Regent Street was finished it would be found to compete successfully with the American streets. Unfortunately, they were handicapped by having to pay three times as much as they would have paid a few years ago when the large American buildings were erected.

Sir HENRY TANNER, C.B., I.S.O. [F.] said he quite agreed with what had been said as to the limitations their buildings were subjected to in London. Restrictions which made them keep under 60 feet in height for the top storey seemed a monstrous thing, especially in Regent Street, where, he believed, the Quadrant was to run up to 80 feet, and 100 feet to the roof. This meant 40 feet to be left practically open, and there was the great expense of carrying up the building to such a height when no use could be made of it. Unless the Crown or the tenants could get the regulations relaxed they would be handicapped far more largely than by the extra expense caused by the rise in prices. With regard to planning, the differences were considerable as to where the lifts should be. In the case of all American stores, apparently, the lifts were placed away from the doors, while in London the tendency was to have them near the doors, so that purchasers who only wanted to go upstairs need not trample over the premises more than was necessary. The differences between the American and the British practice seemed to be in the area and in the lights. He should have thought that, generally, 27 feet and 24 feet were exaggerated heights for store-rooms. Here they varied from 16 or 17 feet to 23 feet, which he thought was enough, no matter what the size of the store. The width between the columns—viz., 22 feet—seemed rather small. He thought something nearer 30 feet would be better.

Mr. J. J. JOASS [F.] said he had never listened to a more interesting Paper. Mr. Hall's remarks concerning Wanamaker's store specially interested him, as he had attended the opening of that store as the late Mr. Burnham's guest. As an instance of the intense interest which the American public displayed in architecture, the store was opened by the President of the Republic, and he was attended by a bodyguard of a full battalion of United States troops, numbering over a thousand men. He thought we should have to wait a long time in this country before we had an opening on that scale. He could not too earnestly press on the meeting's attention Mr. Murray's remarks as to the necessity for an alteration in the London Building Act. There was no doubt that the future development of architecture in this country would be closely identified with the departmental store, probably for many years to come. Far more money would be spent in that direction than in any other. This country would produce as fine stores as any in



the world but for these regulations. Now, unless the highest floor was kept down to 60 feet, a store could not be built at all; it was not a store we got, but a congeries of small shops, which were useless for business purposes. He hoped some form of combined action would result from this or similar meetings. Personally, he thought that a matter of this sort was not so much in the hands of architects as in the hands of traders themselves. Architects had very little influence in England: the public were not interested in architecture, and even those who ought to know better took very little interest in it. The financial aspect of the problem ought to be put forward distinctly by the men who were going to erect these buildings: and he thought a determined effort ought to be made, and without delay. He agreed with Sir Henry Tanner's remark about Regent Street: he (the speaker) had got something to do with one of the buildings there. The roof of this would go up to 100 feet: the top floor would be 60 feet from the ground, and all the rest was wasted. This would be a tremendous handicap; and if, in addition, they had to build cross walls with fire-resisting doors, the useless expense carried by such a building would be very great indeed. With regard to those cross walls and steel rolling shutters, he noticed in Wertheimer's great store in Berlin directly underneath some of the openings large counters on wheels, so that it was impossible for the shutters to come down at all. On enquiring the reason, they said: "We wheel these away when the inspector is coming along, and replace them when he leaves!" Such evasions are impossible here.

Mr. ROBT. ATKINSON [F.] said he had been over to America, and had formed the view that the extraordinary efficiency of American architects was due to their personal education; also that a great part of the success of these buildings was due to the engineer. The engineer, both structural and mechanical, played a large part in the planning of these buildings, though he got practically no credit for it. Also, he thought that managers of stores themselves must have much to do with the planning. What struck him most was the tremendous over-staffing of these stores. The staffs seemed fifty to a hundred per cent. more than in England. That was due, he was told, to two reasons—one is that the staffs shifted about a great deal more than here, and the other is that half the staff were very inefficient. About 50 per cent. of the building was devoted to staff, stock and packing rooms. In Chicago and New York one found a conglomeration of these stores in a very small area, and it did not seem that the business of any single store was any the worse for the competition. They seemed to do better, because the packing of so many buildings together drew a tremendous concourse of people who would not come otherwise. There was another point which we neglect very much here—viz., the traffic aspect. The parking of the cars of the people blocked up the street so much that it was practically impossible to find room for a

car in the busy time of the day. This agglomeration of shops, with their traffic, congests the streets in the neighbourhood to such an extent that there was no room for the street traffic. Some method must be found of parking these cars during business times. With regard to the lift question, in Chicago they were putting in escalators from floor to floor, not so much because they were really useful, but because a lift from one floor to the next was a luxury, and they were overcrowded and inadequate. So, to relieve the congestion, they were putting in escalators for the first five or six floors, so that for these the people did not need to touch the lifts at all. Another point was in regard to shop fronts. These stores were so enormous and carried so many goods that it was impossible to show a quarter of the material, so the shop fronts were devoted to attractive displays which had no connection with the trade in the interior. In Marshall Field's stores the shop front was laid out as Pompeian decoration; even the grand piano was designed in Pompeian fashion, and lay figures dressed in different costumes were lounging about in the windows, which showed nothing of the goods they had in the store. The front seemed for the purpose of making a tremendous display, not so much to show the goods they had to sell; they wanted the people indoors for that.

The PRESIDENT, in putting the vote, said that the idea that the height of buildings, or the regulations concerning them, should be fixed by the Fire Brigade was absurd. The duty of the Fire Brigade was to follow the building, not for the building to follow the Fire Brigade. The Building Act was admittedly out of date, and should long ago have been superseded. Mr. Murray properly pointed out that the blocks of buildings in Regent Street were not designed wholly by Nash, but were built under Nash's superintendence; and he would suggest that the Office of Woods and Forests, of which Mr. Murray was a distinguished official, should help in every possible way towards the solution of commercial architecture; and one point which should have the Department's serious consideration was the idea of preparing elevations for buildings before they knew what the plans were. That procedure may have answered very well with Louis XIV. when he built the Place Vendôme. He put up the front from Mansart's designs, and said, "You can put anything you like behind it." The owners did so, and very ingenious plans they produced. But under modern requirements of commercial trading such a proceeding was impossible. The plan was the important thing, and the elevation must come out of and express the plan. The President went on to express the Institute's appreciation of the attendance of their friends who were interested in the commercial side of this architecture. The Institute welcomed them not merely as a compliment, but for their serious contribution to the solution of this great problem. It was important that both commercial men and architects should take an interest in architecture, from different

points of view, but with the same end; otherwise they would never advance. To architects he would say that they should concentrate entirely on their clients' requirements and design their buildings accordingly. They should put aside altogether any idea of building a monument to themselves—with the result that they had then to cut it about to satisfy the trader's needs.

Mr. AUSTEN HALL, in expressing his acknowledgments for the vote, said that the preparation of the Paper and the study that produced it had been a continuous pleasure. He thanked Mr. Selfridge extremely for his interesting remarks. Few knew more about the subject than he, and as architects they owed him a great deal. He had taught them something inspiring about the romance of commerce which should stimulate their imagination. He had also given them a new magnificence in their street architecture which they should appreciate more and more as time went on and the full effect of his work in London was felt. He (the speaker) had delightful recollections of his visit to America, and had returned with a profound admiration for American architecture, which he thought was at this moment the finest in the world. With regard to the building restrictions which hampered them so severely, he thought the obvious

outcome of the meeting should be to form a Committee to urge the reform of the London Building Act. A strong Committee should be formed to begin a regular, definite and successful campaign for the modification of this ridiculous Act which dated from 1894. The regulations were out of date even then, yet we in 1920 were still governed by them. Millions of money were wasted because buildings were not built to fulfil their purpose economically and sensibly. With regard to the question of finance which Mr. Murray raised, he thought what the architect was personally responsible for was the production of something which would be a financial success. As regards height, it was not only that they got more storeys in a building, but in New York they got magnificent entrance halls as well. One Bank he went into was 60 feet to the ceiling. Such a height could not be afforded in a low building. In America all the space was available up above; they also got magnificent elevations, and vestibules of enormous height. As to the position of lifts, the theory in America was that people in walking through the building to get to the lift would see and be tempted to buy things which they had not intended to buy. A prominent architect in America had told him that the lifts should be away from the door, but not more than 100 feet away.

## UNIFICATION AND REGISTRATION.

### Charter Committee's Interim Report : Resolutions of the General Body.

The Special General Meeting summoned, in the terms of the notice-paper, "for the purpose of obtaining the sanction of the General Body of Members for the Council's proposals as the first step towards the unification and registration of the profession," was duly held on Monday, 22nd March. The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, was in the Chair, supported by the Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, and, with one or two exceptions, all the London Members of Council. There was a good attendance of ordinary members.

The notice-paper stated that the Council had unanimously adopted the following Report of the Charter Committee :—

#### INTERIM REPORT OF THE CHARTER COMMITTEE.

1. In compliance with the instructions of the Council the Charter Committee has examined and is now considering the question of unification and registration as it presents itself at the present time, together with the means which may best give effect to the general desire of the profession.

2. In view of the time that has elapsed since the mandate of the General Body was given and the wider outlook now apparent, the Charter Committee recommends that the Council should summon a Special General Meeting at an early date with a view to obtaining sanction for the Council to prepare and present for the consideration of the profession a more extended and comprehensive scheme than that covered by the Resolution of 1914.

3. If this proposal is approved, the Committee suggest that the Council should, also with the sanction of the General Meeting, appoint a Committee representative of

the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated above. This Committee should be composed of :

- A. Representatives of Royal Institute of British Architects.
- B. " " Allied Societies in United Kingdom.
- C. " " Architectural Association.
- D. " " Society of Architects.
- E. " " Official Architects' Association.
- F. " " Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union.
- G. " " Architects not belonging to any professional organisation.

20th February, 1920

The Resolutions to be brought before the meeting were printed on the notice-paper as follows :—

1. " That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to prepare and present for the consideration of the profession a more extended and comprehensive scheme than that covered by the Resolutions of 1914."

2. " That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to appoint a Committee representative of the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated in the report of the Charter Committee dated 20th February, 1920."

The scheme referred to in Resolution No. 1 was debated, it should be mentioned, at several meetings in 1914 [see JOURNAL 1914, 17th Jan., 27th April, 9th May, 13th June, 25th July], and was finally passed as follows :—

1. The Charter to enable the R.I.B.A. to constitute and maintain a Register of persons who have shown :

- (a) In the first instance by the possession of certain qualifications (see Clause 3),
- (b) In the future, and after the first establishment of the

Register, by their having passed certain prescribed tests (see Clause 5),

that they are qualified for the practice of Architecture.

Fellows of the R.I.B.A. elected by the Council hereafter under Clause 2 of the Supplemental Charter of 1909 to be admitted to the Register without having passed the "prescribed tests."

2. All persons so inscribed on the Register to have the right to call themselves "Registered Architects," but only Corporate Members of the R.I.B.A. to have the right to call themselves "Chartered Architects."

3. In the first instance there shall be inscribed on the Register:—

(a) The Fellows, Associates, and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A.

(b) All such members of Allied Societies in the United Kingdom as are engaged in the practice of Architecture and are recommended by the Councils of those Societies and approved by the Council R.I.B.A.

(c) Any person who shall prove to the satisfaction of the Council of the R.I.B.A. that at the date of the granting of the Charter he had been for at least two years engaged as a principal in the *bona fide* practice of Architecture, or had served for ten years as pupil, apprentice, or assistant, or partly as one and partly as the other, to a person or persons who at the date of the granting of the Charter is or are entitled to be enrolled on the Register and who shall be approved by the Council of the R.I.B.A.

No applications for admissions to the Register under 3 (b) and 3 (c) to be entertained after six months from the date of the granting of the Charter.

4. Every Architect on the Register must sign a form of declaration prescribed by the Council.

5. The "prescribed tests" shall be the Examinations qualifying for admission to membership of the R.I.B.A., and the fees payable for entering for such Examinations shall be identical with the fees payable by candidates for the R.I.B.A. Examinations. Candidates who have passed the Examinations shall be eligible for membership of the R.I.B.A.

6. An annual registration fee shall be payable to the R.I.B.A. by all Architects on the Register.

7. The Register to be administered by the Registration Board of the R.I.B.A., whose functions shall be limited to supervision of the Register, to investigation of complaints in regard to the professional conduct of any person on the Register, and to reporting to the Council of the R.I.B.A. on matters connected with the Register only. The Board's powers to be limited to reporting to the Council, by whom the required action will be taken.

8. Representation on the Registration Board and for the specific purposes only as defined in Clause 7 to be given to Licentiates and to Registered Architects not being Corporate Members or Licentiates. In all other regards the constitutional position of the Licentiates to remain as at present.

9. The number of members of the Registration Board not to exceed 23, in the proportion of 10 Fellows, 7 Associates, and 6 Registered Architects, of whom at least 3 should be Licentiates, until such date as the class of Licentiates shall have expired.

10. The Council to consist of:—

- |  |   |                     |
|--|---|---------------------|
| 1 President (Fellow).  | ) |                     |
| 4 Vice-Presidents (Fellows).   |   |                     |
| 1 Hon. Secretary (Fellow).   | ) |                     |
| 5 Chairmen of Standing Committees (Fellows).                             |   | - <i>Ex officio</i> |
| 1 (Chairman of Board of Architectural Education (Fellow).                | ) |                     |
| 15 Ordinary Members (Fellows).   |   |                     |
| 10 Associate Members.  |   |                     |
| 2 Past Presidents (Fellows).   |   |                     |
| 1 Representative of the Architectural Association (Fellow or Associate). |   |                     |

The President or other representative, being a Fellow of the R.I.B.A., of every Allied Society in the United Kingdom having not less than 50 of its members on the Register (or such other number as the Council may from time to time determine). [Allied Societies having less than 50 members on the Register to be represented on the Council in rotation.]

11. The R.I.B.A. to be empowered to issue a scale of fees payable to Architects on the Register.

12. The R.I.B.A. to have enlarged powers of holding property.

13. The By-law in regard to the Board of Architectural Education to be revised so as to confer upon certain Schools of Architecture the privilege of representation on the Board.

At the final debate, on the 29th June 1914, the following Resolution was passed:—"That as the proposals have received the approval of members, the Solicitors to the Institute be instructed by the Council to prepare the necessary petition for submission to the Privy Council." This direction remained in abeyance owing to the war.

Before formally opening the debate on the 22nd March the President said that it might be convenient to point out that the resolutions before the Meeting did not commit them to any definite scheme or policy, but merely provided the machinery for preparing and submitting one to the Institute. He reminded them that it was the business of a Special General Meeting to deal with the matters for which it was specifically convened—in effect, to adopt, or to reject, the proposals on the agenda. Amendments, if any, must be constructive—that is, the thing proposed may be done in a different way, but it was not in order to propose a different thing. He hoped the business might be got through quickly, as he was anxious to leave time for an informal discussion afterwards, at which members might make useful suggestions, which would be carefully stenographed for the guidance of those concerned. The resolutions would be moved from the Chair, and he should ask an Associate, Mr. Horace Cubitt, to second the first resolution. Major Barnes, M.P., who was to have seconded the second resolution was, he was sorry to say, detained by his duties in the House of Commons, and Mr. Waterhouse would second that resolution.

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS [F.]: If the resolutions be passed, will that mean that the Institute approves amalgamation with any Society?

The PRESIDENT: It will not commit the Institute to any policy: it clears the ground so that we may go on if we please.

The PRESIDENT then addressed the Meeting as follows:—

We have met, gentlemen, on business of some importance; important rather, perhaps, on account of what it implies, than of what we shall actually do tonight. To lay the Foundation Stone does not in itself advance the building very far, but it signifies that the underground work has been prepared, and that the superstructure is commenced. The basis of our pre-

sent enterprise was provided during the Presidency of Sir Reginald Blomfield in 1914, when you sanctioned in principle certain modifications of the Charter. We hope to-night to lay the Foundation Stone of a great construction, the Unification of the Profession. I shall be thankful indeed if this structure can be completed during my Presidency, for I believe that I could render no better service to those who have placed me in this Chair.

The war has taught us many lessons: none greater than that of the value of united effort under single control. I need not dwell on this point: we are all convinced that so long as we speak with different (and sometimes with inevitably dissentient) voices, we shall never obtain that hearing, and that influence, in public affairs, to which our great profession is entitled. Unity is Strength.

Let me explain the precise reasons for calling this Meeting. It will be within your recollection that on the 29th June, 1914, it was decided by the General Body to proceed with a registration scheme, of which the principles were scheduled in thirteen clauses. This decision involved the preparation of a new Charter; and a Resolution was passed, on the same day, "*That, as the proposals have received the approval of members, the Solicitors to the Institute be instructed by the Council to prepare the necessary petition for submission to the Privy Council.*" The war broke out immediately afterwards, and this direction remained, perforce, in abeyance.

But, as soon as your new Council was elected, they set up a Committee to consult with the Solicitors, and settle, as directed, the instructions for the new Charter. This Committee comprised: The President, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Keen), a Vice-President (Mr. Cross), Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Davidge, Mr. Stanley Hall, Mr. Peach, and Mr. Maurice Webb.

Now, at their very first meeting, the Council had also determined to make another effort to consolidate the Profession and passed a unanimous Resolution to that effect—viz.: "*The Council of the Royal Institute is determined to make a further effort to unify the Architectural profession and is about to consider the best means of attaining this object.*"

You may ask, why have all these months passed without definite action. The reason is, not the fault of the Charter Committee, but my unfortunate illness at the very outset of the new Session. The Charter Committee went on with their work in the meantime, but, as they proceeded, it became more and more evident to them that circumstances had changed, during the five years or more since the 1914 Resolutions were passed, and that the General Body ought to be consulted as to whether a "more extended and comprehensive" scheme should not be prepared. It seemed obvious that to deal only with the Charter might not be consistent with the Council's intention to bring about unity; on the contrary, a cut-and-dried proposal, especially one which fell in any way short of satisfying the universal desire for internal concord,

might provoke serious opposition; might even widen the division between the members of the profession within the Institute and those outside it. With this view, so soon as I was able to take part in the discussions of the Committee, I entirely concurred.

This brings us to the purpose of the First Resolution, which is merely to clear the ground for further action. The resolution runs:

"That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to prepare and present for the consideration of the profession a more extended and comprehensive scheme than that covered by the resolutions of 1914."

Mr. HORACE CUBITT [A.] said that, speaking as one of the Associate representatives on the Council, he would like first to express on their behalf their appreciation of an Associate being asked to second this most important resolution. In times past some of the Associates used to feel that they were not sufficiently consulted in regard to changes in the affairs of the Institute which vitally affected them. He was sure that the calling of this Meeting would make it clear to the Associates that they were receiving every possible consideration in this question. It seemed to him that for some time past the Institute had had alternative policies: the policy of exclusion, and the policy of inclusion. At one time it adopted almost solely a policy of exclusion: it restricted its membership to those who either were already Fellows or were Associates through examination. Then, some ten years ago, it decided to admit the Licentiate class. By taking that step the Institute changed its policy from one of exclusion to one of inclusion, and he suggested that the present proposal to proceed towards unification and registration of the profession was merely an extension of the step taken some time back to bring in the Licentiate class. He suggested that members, and particularly Associates, should look back on the last ten years and see what had happened through the introduction of the Licentiate class. A number of Associates—he himself was one of them, he was afraid—were opposed to the scheme, but their opposition was overruled, and now they had the opportunity of looking back over a considerable period with this new class. He thought they must all admit that if there had been any loss to individual members—it was very doubtful indeed if there had been any—yet as regards the gain he was sure the whole profession had gained most considerably. (Applause.) Members, he was sure, would agree that among the Licentiates were numbers of architects who were a credit to the Institute, and it would have been a bad thing for the Institute if they had remained outside it. He would mention one matter in regard to which the Licentiate class had been of very great value to the Institute—viz., in the negotiations which the President had recently carried on so successfully with the Government on the question of housing work and the fees for such work. If, instead of speaking for the large number of members the President now represents, the Government had been able to tell him that he spoke only for some two or three thousand architects, practically a minority of the profession, it would not have been possible to have got the most satisfactory arrangement with the Government which had been agreed on. The present proposal was solely to extend what was done when the Licentiates were brought in, to carry it through to its logical termination, to have a policy of inclusion to its fullest extent. He had pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Mr. HERBERT A. WELCH [A.] moved that after the word "scheme" there be added the words "for unification and registration of the profession." As resolution No. 1 manifestly referred to the unification and registration of the profession, those words should be embodied.

Mr. PERKS seconded the amendment. The resolution, he said, should be as definite as possible. Might he take it that the answer to the question he had just put was that the meeting was not pledged to amalgamation with any society and that they had a clean sheet before them?

The PRESIDENT, in reply, said that he had already pointed out that these resolutions committed the meeting to no definite policy or scheme, but were for setting up machinery for preparing a scheme.

After some discussion Mr. Welch's amendment to insert after the word "scheme" the words "for the unification and registration of the profession" was put to the meeting and carried, 24 Fellows voting for and 19 against; 34 Associates for and a very few against.

Mr. PERCIVAL M. FRASER [F.] and Mr. DELISSA JOSEPH [F.] having asked that the resolutions of 1914 might be read, the President directed the Secretary to read a précis of the scheme adopted by the Resolution of 29th June, 1914 [see above].

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS: The proposal was to alter our Charter, to go to the Privy Council for a scheme of registration. That is a definite and final thing which has been approved and cannot be extended. I should therefore like to know what is meant by the resolution which says that the Committee is to prepare a more extended and comprehensive scheme "for unification and registration."

The PRESIDENT: That is your own amendment, Mr. Perks.

Mr. PERKS: I want to know what the Committee are going to do. I seconded the amendment because I dislike vague resolutions; one man says they mean one thing, and another that they mean something else. But with regard to registration, we are pledged to go to the Privy Council to get our Charter amended so as to give us power of registration. We cannot go higher than the Privy Council. A little information on those lines would clear the air.

Mr. K. GAMMELL [F.] said he thought Mr. Perks was going outside the needs of the case. He himself was quite as apprehensive as Mr. Perks was as to the mischief of passing an easy-going resolution which might eventually land the Institute in an undesirable position. He gathered from the President's statement that a Committee had thoroughly considered the question with a view to laying their proposals before the Institute. It would be open to members by-and-by, when the proposals were before them, to raise objections and propose amendments. Mr. Gammell concluded by suggesting that any future voting should be taken as one entire vote, and not be split up into sections.

The PRESIDENT, answering the last point, explained that there was no desire to differentiate. The object of voting separately was to ensure that the meeting was in order under By-law 65 in having the requisite number of Fellows present, and also to see that no Licentiates were voting. In order, however, that the voting might be taken *en bloc*, he would order a count to be taken. [This was accordingly done by show of hands, when 43 Fellows were counted and 63 Associates.]

The resolution, as amended, was then put from the Chair, and carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT: With regard to the Second Resolution. You will remember that in 1911, a scheme was proposed to you for the amalgamation of the Society of Architects and the Royal Institute. This failed, and it failed because of the very obstacle which this Second Resolution, now before us, is intended to avoid. A cut-and-dried scheme was brought forward—involving some sacrifice of the position of our members, especially perhaps that of our examined Associates—without first making sure that it was acceptable to those chiefly concerned with its effect. Instead, therefore, of bringing up a scheme of which

the substance is previously unknown, we intend that representatives of all the interests in the profession shall have their share in its framing. We are all at one in seeking to "promote the advancement of Civil Architecture," as our Charter has it, and to improve the position of practising architects. But we have not all the same views as to the best method of attaining these objects; there are various interests to consider, some local, some particular—I am sure none which are selfish, or unwilling to give and take in order to further the common end. Let us therefore take all into our counsels from the start, instead of adopting the policy of trying to get those who have had no part in its preparation to accept a preconceived, and perhaps unpalatable, idea. The delegates appointed can thus keep their Councils or constituents in touch with matters as they proceed, and whatever scheme is formulated be agreed *ab initio* by the whole profession before it is promulgated for general acceptance. The Committee we propose for this purpose must necessarily be a large one, but it will not need to meet often as a whole. I hope that general principles may be laid down at the first meeting, and an Executive appointed to draft details, which can be circulated to the other members for their criticism and observations. You may wonder how representation is to be obtained by those architects who do not belong to any recognised Society. We propose to place our Galleries at their disposal, and invite them to meet here for the purpose of electing their delegates. A special meeting, for the same purpose, will also be called for Licentiates; the other Bodies named in the Resolution will make their own arrangements. The fixing of the proportionate numbers of the respective representatives will be rather a delicate matter, which we must leave in the hands of the Council. It will involve consideration of statistics, and discussions which could not be held in open meeting without inviting trouble; the Council will regard their duty in this respect as judicial, and arbitrate as fairly as possible. At the same time the question of numbers is not quite so important as it may appear at first sight, since it is clear that no mere majority vote on a scheme will satisfy our object. We must be unanimous about it, or as nearly so as may be practicable in a still imperfect world. One word more before I move the Resolution. We are all proud to belong to the Royal Institute of British Architects, the oldest, and most important, Architectural Society in the world. Its organisation and administration are the envy and admiration of our brother architects the world over. Our critics are, for the most part, within our own borders, and even they might sometimes be well-advised to invert the ancient parable, and beware that the mote in their own eye does not blind them to the beam in that of their neighbour. You may be sure that your Council and your President have at heart the interests of this Royal Institute, and will effectually safeguard them. I will now move the Second Resolution—viz., "That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves

of the Council's proposal to appoint a Committee representative of the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated in the Report of the Charter Committee dated 20th February 1920." Then we go on:—"This Committee to be composed of representatives of the Royal Institute of British Architects, representatives of the Allied Societies in the United Kingdom, of the Architectural Association, of the Society of Architects, of the Official Architects' Association, of the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union, and of Architects not belonging to any professional organisation." If you can suggest anybody that is not included in that list, I shall be much obliged, because we want everybody included. Mr. Waterhouse will be good enough to second that resolution.

Mr. PAUL WATERHOUSE [F.] in seconding the resolution, said he did so as the intermediate generation of a family whose association with the Institute would prove, he hoped, in the long run to have been a long one. The President had laid before them the proposal that they should set up a deliberative assembly. The best thing members could do was not to deliberate beforehand, but to leave the deliberation to this assembly. But he had one excellent reason for seconding it: he wished, in the most public manner possible, to show his entire sympathy with the generous and general spirit of sympathy in which this resolution had been framed.

Mr. H. C. CORLETTE [F.] said that it ought not to be forgotten that there were Allied Societies other than those in the United Kingdom. Out of 31 Allied Societies 11 were not in the United Kingdom. He suggested that the resolution should be enlarged so that the Allied Societies overseas might become intimately connected with the work of the Institute in the Mother Country. Architecture concerned not only Great Britain but the whole of the British Empire. When unification was attained the one great aim of the profession would be to realise far higher ideals in education, so that they should be not only a profession of architects, but representatives of the art of architecture as it was practised not in England alone, but in the whole of the British Empire.

The PRESIDENT, after some discussion, suggested the deletion of the words "in the United Kingdom." This would allow all the Allied Societies to be represented. Some one or more in the home country could be nominated to represent them, in the same way as he (the President) had had the honour of representing Canada at the International Committees. That had gone on for some time and worked very well.

The Meeting indicated its unanimous approval of the suggestion.

Replying to Mr. George Hubbard [F.], the President said that the Belfast Society not being an Allied Society might be brought in by amending the last category, so as to read: "Architects not belonging to any of the above-mentioned professional organisations."

Mr. S. HURST SEAGER [F.] (New Zealand), speaking on behalf of the New Zealand Institute of Architects—an Allied Society which already has registration—expressed his hearty appreciation of the way the amendment had been passed. He had greatly wished that the Allied Societies in the Dominion of New Zealand should be associated with the Institute in this great work, but he supposed there had been some good reason for leaving them out, and had therefore not intended to speak, but to send a communication in writing.

The second resolution, as amended, was then put from the Chair, and carried unanimously, amid loud applause.

The PRESIDENT congratulated the meeting on the work accomplished that evening. They had done, he said, perhaps even more than appeared on paper. He was not sure that they had not already unified the

profession. By setting up this Committee, representative of all the interests of the profession, they had formed a body which, if it pleased them later to make it permanent, would become the General Council of Architects, Royal College of Architects, anything they pleased to call it, and such a body would be representative of the whole profession. Questions of education and examination would probably be dealt with by a more glorified Board of Architectural Education than the present one—and he sincerely hoped under the same Chairman. (Hear, hear.) Registration and a host of other political matters could be dealt with by such a General Council as he had mentioned. That was a first suggestion, but no doubt some would have much wiser and better proposals to make for the benefit of the new Committee which had been formed. As there still remained time for discussion the meeting would be glad to hear the views of any who had thought upon the subject.

Mr. W. R. DAVIDGE [L.] said the President had spoken very truly when he said that the meeting that evening was for the purpose of clearing the ground. They had not only cleared the ground, but had dug the foundations, and decided that the building should be of a permanent character. Now they had to discuss the question of the style of architecture on which the building should be planned. They might not, he feared, be quite so unanimous in this, but he trusted it would be possible to decide at least the lines the building should take, and that it should be permanent in character, one which should for ever inspire the profession. (Applause.)

Mr. HERBERT A. WEICH [L.] said that, while he agreed with the President that the meeting that evening had probably done a greater work than it knew, it was of vital importance that it should be followed up very carefully, and at once, by the body which had been created for that purpose. He suggested that they should get into direct touch, and as quickly as possible, with all the Societies at present connected, even remotely connected, with architecture, in the British Isles particularly, and abroad as far as practicable, taking into consideration the geographical situation, which made it difficult to get results quickly. What the Institute had neglected in the past should be a lesson for the future; they should get into touch at once with the Societies in the provinces. The Allied Societies in the past had been left too much to themselves, the Institute had taken too little interest in them. With regard to the question of unification and registration, if a number of members on the Committee who were best suited to tramp the country were sent from time to time to do propaganda work in every centre in which there was an Allied Society they would succeed in educating the whole profession along the lines over which it was intended to proceed. Then, when it came to the launching of the scheme, the ground would be cleared, and there would be little difficulty to face. Another point: the essence of success would be the measure of publicity which they gave to their work. Anything approaching a cut-and-dried scheme, worked out behind closed doors and in water-tight compartments, was doomed at the outset—a scheme launched on those lines would be still-born. They should set to work to get a Charter which would remove at once and for all time the disabilities under which any section of the Institute, as at present constituted, laboured. As a member of the Associate class he would make special reference to those unfortunate By-laws which kept a large section of the Institute without a vote.

The PRESIDENT, in closing the meeting, said that the Council were well aware of the advisability of proceeding with the work quickly, and for a very good reason: that if this Committee of the whole profession should decide to



promulgate a Registration Bill they would do so under such circumstances as had never before presented themselves, for there was good reason to believe that the Surveyors' Institution and the Institution of Civil Engineers were likely to join with them, and if all three professions went forward together at the same time they would have a good chance of getting what they wanted. Therefore the meeting might rest assured that no time would be lost.

## THE HOUSING EXHIBITION AT THE INSTITUTE.

By Professor S. D. ADSHEAD [F.].

THIS collection of plans for the layout of housing schemes and of designs for houses represents the contribution which the profession is making to the national effort to provide houses. Originally collected as an exhibit at the Ideal Homes Exhibition, where, unfortunately it was not very well shown, it was decided by the Council of the Institute to re-hang it in the rooms of the R.I.B.A. before dispersion. It is the first occasion when an opportunity has been afforded of reviewing and comparing the designs of architects for post-war municipal housing schemes. Whilst few exhibitions of the R.I.B.A. have appeared less attractive to the casual observer, few have been of greater importance, representing, as this exhibition does, a first instalment of work that is almost entirely new to the profession.

It is impossible to dwell for long on the varying interests of the different schemes without being struck with the enormous influence of the plan of the Hampstead Garden Suburb, without perceiving that the Ministry's Manual has been text and sermon in every detail, and without realizing that the requirements of communities so vividly expressed in the buildings of old towns and villages are either provided at a venture or are entirely wanting. What does this mean? It means that the housing schemes of the country are not the details of a development laid out in accordance with the broader principles of town planning. It means that they lack the reality of an organic structure, and, taken as a whole, can never adequately satisfy all the blossoming needs of the modern community. But this is no fault of the architect and technician: it is, unfortunately, the fault of a harassed Government, which, in its haste to build houses, has devoted too little attention to the important though more obscure problems that form the basis of regional and town planning.

A reference to examples of groups of buildings in old towns and villages demonstrates the importance of providing a nucleus, or, as the Americans term it, a neighbourhood centre to every community; of limiting the number of houses that are to come within the radius of its influence; and, in the case of communities on the confines of big towns, of emphasising the main approach, be it by rail or road. For the purpose of an analysis of a town it may be said that in a town there are but three types of roads: traffic roads,

promenades, and approaches. The second is often combined with the first, and the third is strictly not a road but a way. Here is an opportunity for giving expression and character to the layout; these roads should be designed quite differently. Interest in a layout that is nothing more than pattern making cannot conceivably compare with interests that are the expression of things social and real. The one is mechanical, the other vital.

Reviewing the exhibits in the order of their importance, first consideration should perhaps be given to the schemes submitted by the larger provincial cities. The proposals of Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield and Bristol are well represented.

At Manchester the work has been divided between panels of architects who, grouped under chairmen, have prepared schemes for different areas within the near confines of the city. No criticism of the results attained would be fair and just without reference to the location of their sites and their general topography. The near suburbs of Manchester are admittedly not Nature's chosen beauty spots. For the most part Manchester is almost a perfectly level city, and interest must be artificially produced. Moreover, it is a big city and has arrived at a stage in its development where great importance attaches to its suburban traffic problems. It cannot be said that in the choice of sites for its housing schemes it has shown that foresight and acumen which characterises its every endeavour in other fields. Sites at Wilbraham Road and south of Dickenson Road should not be built upon, but should be kept open for the benefit of the more crowded areas in the vicinity. The sites chosen are too big and too few. They should have been scattered about in smaller areas completely outside the confines of the city. It is hardly the fault of the architects engaged that in their endeavour to supply the required 12 to the acre over such vast areas and without consideration to the public interests and requirements of a completely organised community, their schemes should reveal a certain measure of monotony. As an effort to obtain interest in the disposition of the houses their one objective has been the cul-de-sac. The new population is to be stabled in stalls. One wonders whether the grid-iron scheme for the Wilbraham Road area is the serious effort of an uninformed expert or the enunciation of a principle set up in conscious opposition to modern methods and modern thought.

Liverpool shows three schemes, at Lark Hill, Edge Lane Drive and Long Moor Lane, the work of the officials of the municipality. The Lark Hill scheme provides 2,361 houses. To group together so large a number of practically similar houses having practically the same accommodation and provided for the same class, and without any apparent effort to create an organic whole, means that its inhabitants will sooner or later grow weary of the monotony and return to the older but more interesting parts of the town. The plans suffer from bad draughtsmanship: the system of road plotting is too mechanical, and the architect-



tural ability shown both in the planning and in the elevations of the houses is far below that displayed in other schemes where Liverpool architects have been employed.

The schemes for Bristol which have been prepared in the office of the Borough Engineer are freer from the monotony of the repeated cul-de-sac than those of Manchester and Liverpool, but suffer from an excessive interest in what is merely mechanical road planning and patterning. A circus to a road intersection is a cheap interest at best, and becomes cheaper still when, as at the Knowle area, it is continually repeated.

The area at Sea Mills covers 187 acres. Its shopping area in the centre is wrongly placed. It has very poor connections with the main roads of approach. Its communal interests, its shops, etc., should have been concentrated on these.

Other areas are Fishponds, Horfield, Bedminster, and St. George. Generally the Bristol schemes are of greater interest than those of Manchester and Liverpool, but all architectural planning, such as the siting of public buildings and the shaping of road intersections, is thoroughly bad. An oblong building placed on a formal site of crescent shape is not to be recommended, nor is the placing of any building on what is essentially an open space of formal design.

The layout plans for areas about Sheffield, by Mr. Edwards, are far in advance of those of the other large towns. Their chief defect is their lack of provision of sites for public buildings and places of public interest, and if, as designs, they may be described as tame, they at any rate are not mechanical, nor are they dependent on the interest of the cul-de-sac. Mr. Edwards exhibits many designs for houses. The type of sash window he uses is too high in its proportions for a small house, and it is a pity to introduce paddle-wheel relieving arches where he feels interest is required. His house plans are notoriously clever, and well worthy of close attention.

Before leaving the big towns, a word about a competition design for a scheme at Glasgow, by Mr. R. Dann, an example of an immense scheme a mile and a half long and over half a mile wide, with interests scattered in every direction. No main thoroughfare contains as it should a general grouping of public buildings. Something of this kind is needed to give backbone to the whole scheme.

Perhaps one of the largest of the housing schemes, not a municipal effort, is that at Woolwich, the layout being by Mr. J. S. Gibson and Mr. Maxwell Ayrton. This is shown in a coloured perspective, but the lack of a plan makes it difficult to understand. The scheme seems to be far too big.

Another important scheme, shown on a plan that is very beautifully rendered, is that at Frodingham, Lincs., for the Redbourne Hill Iron and Coal Co., Ltd. The architects are Messrs. Shepherd and Harris. The shopping centre would appear to be at the wrong end of the scheme; it should be nearest the works, whereas

the side next the works contains the recreative area. An existing cemetery in the centre is an unfortunate feature.

Swanpool, Lincoln, by Messrs. Thompson, Hennell and James, is a scheme commenced early in the war. It is a good layout, marred by the unfortunate shape of its civic centre; a square set diagonally, with the site for its public hall squeezed out of one corner. The site of its shops is not very satisfactory either. Some good house plans are shown.

It would be impossible to do more than refer to one or two of the more interesting of the smaller schemes. Smaller schemes, which are not involved in difficulties and complexities contingent upon schemes containing from 1,000 to 2,000 houses, are generally much more easily dealt with.

Mr. Arch. S. Soutar shows some charming urban cottages at Kensington, and his 1909 scheme for Ruislip Northwood is well worth study as illustrating the effect of standardising types and adjusting them so as to produce picturesque grouping.

Messrs. Wheeler and Goodman show two thoroughly well thought out little schemes at Horsham and Arundel. They have exceedingly well arranged road sections. The house plans are perhaps marred by having the baths on the ground floor.

Mr. Herbert A. Welch shows a nice little scheme of about 50 houses at Sherborne. His house plans are novel, with their through sculleries and covered yard spaces. They appear expensive.

Mr. Percy Houfton shows an interesting mining village on a hill side at Abercarn. It is a question as to whether his cross roads rising up the hill are not too strained an effort to produce an exact segment of a circle.

Messrs. Lockwood and Abercrombie show a big development at Wrexham. The site is a narrow strip of land, 3,500 ft. long. They show two parallel roads: a main traffic road and a parkway: a main cross road connects the scheme at an open crescent in the centre. Perhaps greater interest could have been concentrated here.

Messrs. Niven and Wigglesworth show a charming group of cottages at Watford drawn in bird's-eye perspective. As cottage designs those of Mr. George Hornblower are especially charming. He shows schemes at Hendon and Tenterden.

Amongst others well worthy of study are three layouts on Welsh hillsides by Mrs. Alwyn Lloyd, and the photograph of a hillside grouping of cottages in concrete at Hardwick by Messrs. Dunn and Curtis Green shows an exceedingly picturesque adaptation of plan and elevation to the peculiarities of the site.

Although this first serious effort of the architects to design houses and group them for the masses, shows that they are very largely experimenting and doing many things at a venture, yet it must be admitted that, taken as a whole, they have made a notable contribution to the most important undertaking in which the nation is at the moment engaged. They have

brought resource and imagination to bear on a subject which, during half a century, had become barren of all interest, stereotyped and monotonous to an alarming degree.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Future of our Church Architecture.

25, London Road, Neath, S. Wales,  
16th March, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Mr. Statham, in his recent article, has omitted an important consideration bearing on the style of our churches. Surely the outstanding characteristic of a church, as of any other building, should be suitability to its purpose, without which all other qualities are valueless. The purpose of a church is to provide a suitable place for public worship, and, if possible, the design should be such as will help the worshipper to attain to a reverent attitude of mind. In other words, it should be associated with previous acts of worship. I submit that the only architectural style that fulfils this condition in this country is Gothic, for the simple reason that the vast majority of churches in this country are built in that style. It is said that the mediæval type of church plan is not suited to modern requirements. Is it beyond our wit to alter the plan without altering the essentials of the structure?—Yours faithfully,

EDWIN SMITH [A.].

### Mr. Hambidge's Paper on Greek Design.

48, Blenheim Crescent, W.11., 31st March 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Having had the advantage of being present at Mr. Hambidge's interesting lecture at the Institute on 23rd February, and of inspecting the diagrams published in the last issue of the JOURNAL, I am venturing upon a criticism of some aspects of his theory. Representative artists have already expressed their views about his propaganda, but it may also be relevant to consider how the matter appeals to a mathematician. As it was my fate to specialise in mathematics for many years before it occurred to me to tackle the still more difficult subject of art, I should like to offer a few remarks upon Mr. Hambidge's highly original use of mathematical terms and figures.

In discussing his theory with architects I have noticed that half of them are frankly hostile, and say that mechanical rules cannot be applied to art: the other half, who perhaps have not troubled to develop their mathematical talent, are easily persuaded that an argument containing many references to geometry and arithmetic must necessarily be very profound and entirely beyond their competence to criticise. It is possible, however, to adopt a position midway between these two. While being firmly of opinion that art should be guided by rules, one may

still reject the rules of Mr. Hambidge; and while revering the noble science of mathematics, one may remain unconvinced of the relevance to art of the particular calculations which he has set before us.

In the first place, what strikes me is his abuse of mathematical terms. Mr. Hambidge will, perhaps, demand an artistic licence to use words in whatever manner he pleases, but he cannot be allowed to silence the artists by claiming a knowledge of mathematics which they do not possess, and then to elude the criticism of mathematicians by riding away on the high æsthetic horse. As he lays claim to a special virtue of exactness, we are at liberty to ask exactness from him.

The terms "static" and "dynamic" have a very definite meaning. Statics is a science which determines the mechanical conditions of bodies at rest, while dynamics has to do with bodies in motion. Now, buildings are stationary and, furthermore, they ought to express the spirit of immobility, often described as "architectural repose." Therefore, one would naturally imagine that architecture belongs rather to the province of statics than to that of dynamics. But to Mr. Hambidge the term "dynamic" indicates everything which is desirable, living and progressive, while "static" is almost a term of abuse. The distinction which he really draws is that between the commensurate and the incommensurate, but this has nothing whatever to do with the distinction between static and dynamic. And Mr. Hambidge entirely fails to tell us *why* a rectangle with sides having the proportion of  $\sqrt{2}$  to 1 is better artistically than one with sides having the proportion of, say, 20 to 13. The choice of the one is just as arbitrary as that of the other, and when the choice is made, the result is equally "static" in each case. Mr. Hambidge demands of us that we should have a special reverence for  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{5}$ . Perhaps some "artist," through ignorance of numerical signs, may be reduced to a state of superstitious awe in the presence of a square root, but mathematicians are too familiar with such a simple figure to be affected by it in this way. Why should we be asked to single out  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{5}$  for special commendation? What has  $\sqrt{1,000}$  done to be neglected, or the cube, fourth or fifth root of any number we may mention? And what of the millions of other numerical functions far more complex and profound, concerning which Mr. Hambidge is silent? If there is a connection between art and mathematics, it is a conclusion highly insulting to the dignity of art that such very elementary calculations should be deemed sufficient to elucidate the secrets of design. Artists have at different times been asked to follow many false gods, and now in the twentieth century they are commanded to kneel down and worship a surd, "*which*," to quote Euclid, so beloved of Mr. Hambidge, "*is absurd*."—Yours faithfully,

A. TRYSTAN EDWARDS [A.].

### The Present Method of Banning Competitions.

*Society of Architects, 28, Bedford Square, W.C.,  
24th March, 1920.*

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—With reference to the correspondence published in your issue of 20th March, Point No. 1 raised by the Northern Architectural Association embodies, in my opinion, an important question of principle and calls for an immediate solution. I do not agree with the R.I.B.A. Competitions Committee view that any alternative method is at the present time impracticable, and I deprecate the shelving of the question pending the settlement of a problematical point which at present is not even under discussion by the parties concerned.

I suggest that the question raised by the Northern Architectural Association can be solved at once by the immediate issue by the R.I.B.A. and its Allied Societies, in agreement with the Society of Architects, of a Standing Order or By-law prohibiting members of any of these bodies from entering for any architectural competition unless the conditions are advertised by the promoters as having been approved by a joint Committee of the bodies concerned and that the conditions themselves contain a note to that effect.

If all the Local Authorities in the kingdom were notified of such an agreement amongst architectural bodies, and a notification permanently advertised in the professional press, the promoters of competitions would quickly come into line, and architects would be in no doubt as to whether or not they might apply for particulars and enter for the competition. It would also mean that promoters of competitions would approach the Joint Committee in the early stages and the whole matter would be put on a proper footing from the outset.—Yours faithfully,

C. MCARTHUR BUTLER,  
*Secretary, Society of Architects.*

## REVIEWS.

### Foundations for Machinery.

*Foundations for Machinery. By Professor Henry Adams, M.Inst.C.E. With 60 illustrations and 9 tables. Sm. 8o. Lond. 1919. 3s. net; postage 3d. [Technical Publishing Co., Ltd., 1, Gough Square, E.C.4.]*

This volume of about 60 pages deals with a branch of building construction upon which there is little available information. It is disappointing, therefore, to find that the greater part does not deal with the subject, and of the 60 illustrations only about half a dozen are properly of machinery foundations. It is not clear whether the author is writing for architects or for engineers. If for the first the greater part of the contents are so elementary as to be superfluous. If for the latter the information is inadequate and might lead, owing to lack of definiteness, to catastrophe. The author vacillates between theory and rule of thumb practice, with no attempt to reconcile the two.

The first principles and data throughout do not

inspire a feeling of confidence. For instance, at the outset we read concerning foundation design :—

These formulæ are founded upon true principles and may be relied upon . . . although they indicate that without sinking to a certain depth the soil cannot support any load at all.

This is, of course, most fallacious, having in view the large number of cases where the penetration of the top stratum is a positive source of danger.

The data given is little more than a collection of readily accessible facts, loosely put together and in parts inaccurate.

Results are given of tests on soils in Paris and in India and of borings with the fearsome nomenclature inseparable from geological strata. These have, of course, no value; what is wanted are the methods of conducting tests and the lessons to be drawn from results found.

The pages devoted to pile-driving are unreliable. The author gives two formulæ, said to be respectively "suitable" and "more precise," yet the use of the first gives a result of  $3\frac{1}{4}$  and the second of  $9\frac{3}{4}$  tons safe load for the same conditions! The drawing given of a concrete pile shoe is about as bad a type as can be imagined for a vibratory load, and the author's statement that plain concrete piles are equal in strength to reinforced cannot be substantiated on any grounds, nor can the assertion that a certain concrete mix is oil proof.

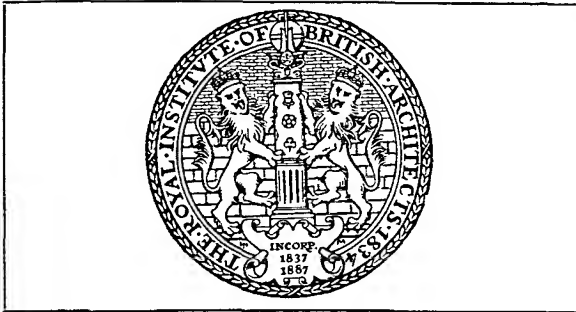
The detailed information on trench-digging and ordinary foundations are foreign to the subject, and the two most important types of machinery foundation are not even mentioned, i.e., boiler foundations and the design of foundations in relation to the type and weight of machinery employed, apart from the nature of the sub-soil.

The information contained in Chapter IV. (Designing Foundations) merely touches on the fringe, and should be very considerably augmented. The detailed information as to costs can only be misleading, and had far better give place to *relative* costs and labour constants. In the table of safe loads for brickwork it is astonishing to find that the composition of the mortar is not even alluded to.

Very little is generally known of the damaging effects which may arise from vibration in buildings, and Chapters VI. and VII. on this point are therefore the most informative in the book. They contain much information which is of practical value and not otherwise available. Even here, as elsewhere, the author neglects to lay down the broad principles to be observed and precautions to be taken in designing to overcome the difficulties and dangers likely to arise.

In conclusion let us quote the author, "No one should attempt to teach a subject unless he knows all about it, but no one can know much about a subject until he has had considerable experience in teaching."

PERCIVAL M. FRASER [F.].



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 10th April 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### Members in the Recent Honours List.

The Third Supplement to the *London Gazette* of the 26th March gives the names of the following members of the Institute who have received promotions in or appointments to the Order of the British Empire for services in connection with the War :—

#### KNIGHT COMMANDER (K.B.E.)

Weaver : Lawrence, C.B.E. [*Hon. A.*], Commercial Secretary to the Board of Agriculture.

#### COMMANDERS (C.B.E.)

Allison : Richard John, O.B.E. [*F.*], Principal Architect H.M. Office of Works.

Hanman : William Thomas, O.B.E. [*Lic.*], Director of Inland Construction, Department of Works and Buildings, Air Ministry.

Newton : Ernest, R.A. [*F.*], Head of Building Licences Branch, Ministry of National Service.

#### OFFICERS (O.B.E.)

Corlette : Major Hubert Christian [*F.*], Head of Labour Section, Food Production Department, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Dyke : David Nicholas [*A.*], Consulting Architect to British Red Cross Hospital, Netley.

Hall : William Carby [*F.*], Deputy Food Commissioner, North Eastern Division.

Lafontaine : Lieut-Col. Henry Philip Leopold Cart de [*A.*], Assistant Inspector of Works, Imperial War Graves Commission.

Reilly : Professor Charles Herbert [*F.*], Inspector of Munition Areas, Ministry of Munitions.

#### MEMBERS (M.B.E.)

Cloux : Frank Louis Whitmarsh [*A.*], Assistant Architect (2nd Class), H.M. Office of Works.

Mole : Charles Johns [*A.*], Acting Assistant Architect, H.M. Office of Works.

Paterson : John Wilson [*A.*], Assistant Architect (2nd Class), H.M. Office of Works.

Scott : Archibald [*A.*], Assistant Architect (1st Class), H.M. Office of Works.

Stratton : Percy Montague [*A.*], Assistant Architect (2nd Class), H.M. Office of Works.

Wylson : Oswald Cane [*F.*], Deputy Chief Surveyor, Special Fire Survey Force, British Red Cross Society.

Wynnes : James Cumming [*F.*], Architectural Assistant (1st Class), H.M. Office of Works.

### The Unification of the Profession.

The following letter has been addressed to the President R.I.B.A. from the North Wales Architectural Society :—

*The North Wales Architectural Society,  
Mostyn Estate Offices, Llandudno,  
15th March 1920.*

DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned, Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects residing in North Wales, are delighted to learn that the Report of the Charter Committee has been adopted unanimously by the Council of the R.I.B.A., and that definite steps are about to be taken with a view to a comprehensive scheme being devised for the unification of the profession and the registration of all architects. We realise that the problem is a difficult one, but the obstacles are not insuperable if only the work is undertaken in the right spirit. The "Mistress Art" is a great art, notwithstanding the weaknesses of those who practise architecture, and we long to see pretentious and delusive professionalism give place to a wider field of vision and thought.

We venture to express the hope that the men appointed on the new Committee to be set up by the Special General Meeting shall be men of imagination—thinkers, creators—with a love of architecture in its highest form and a fine and true conception of its worth as an ennobling factor in the world.

Living in far-away Wales as we do, we find it most difficult to attend meetings of the Institute, but the subject under consideration is of such importance that we feel we should like to send the Institute this expression of the pleasure we experience in learning that, at last, a real effort is to be made for the unification of the profession of architecture.

We are, yours faithfully,

G. A. HUMPHREYS [*F.*], Llandudno (Chairman of the Society).

RICHARD HALL [*F.*], Bangor.

JOSEPH LEEMING [*F.*], Old Colwyn.

H. L. NORTH [*F.*], Llanfairfechan.

JOSEPH OWEN [*F.*], Menai Bridge.

ALFRED CRAMPTON [*A.*], Southport.

S. COLWYN FOULKES [*A.*], Colwyn Bay.

H. HAROLD HUGHES [*A.*], Bangor.

R. J. HUGHES [*A.*], Llanfairfechan.

ROBERT PIERCE [*A.*], Carnarvon.

E. WHITFIELD BURNETT [*Lic.*], Colwyn Bay.

IVOR DAVIES [*Lic.*], Bangor.

SAMUEL EVANS [*Lic.*], Mold.

GORONWY R. GRIFFITH [*Lic.*], Denbigh.

R. C. JONES [*Lic.*], Blaenau-Festiniog.

F. HAWORTH [*Lic.*], Towyn.

E. HOLFORD MILLS [*Lic.*], Montgomery.

### The President at Liverpool.

The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, was the guest of the Liverpool Architectural Society at Liverpool on the 23rd March, at a dinner given in his honour at the Liverpool Reform Club. Mr. T. Taliesin Rees [*F.*], President of the Society, who was in the chair, explained that the gathering had been hastily con-

vened to celebrate, at the earliest possible moment, the unanimous adoption in London, on the previous evening, of resolutions for the unification of all British architectural associations, and of architects outside the associations, the latter having been invited to elect representatives on a Central Committee which will prepare a scheme of unification.

Mr. Simpson, acknowledging the enthusiastic welcome which greeted his introduction by Mr. Rees, said he did not believe there was any profession in this country among the members of which there was so little jealousy as in the architectural profession. He was sure any architect was pleased when he learned that a competent brother architect had received a good commission to carry out. There could be no difficulty in bringing architects together if only they got to know one another. Yesterday they had laid, so to speak, the foundation stone of a superstructure which was to embody representatives of the architects of the United Kingdom and the British possessions overseas. The London meeting, continued Mr. Simpson, was epoch-making, and would be historical. The unanimity was wonderful and without precedent; it augured not only the advance of civil architecture and the improvement of the position of the practical architect, but also the securing of that influence in public affairs which their great profession ought to have and was determined to gain. Replying to questions, Mr. Simpson pointed out that some patience must be exercised during the formation of a committee representative of architects throughout the British Empire, and the Committee could not be expected to report until it had been constituted and met in conference. The time was opportune for the forward steps proposed.

The President of the Manchester Society of Architects (Mr. Isaac Taylor) and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Francis Jones) brought compliments and messages of congratulation from Manchester.

#### Mr. Delissa Joseph's Paper.

Mr. Delissa Joseph's paper on "Higher Buildings for London," read at the Meeting of the 29th March, will be published, together with the discussion, in the JOURNAL for the 8th May. Mr. Joseph in his Paper urged the modification of the London Building Act so as to permit: (1) buildings up to 200 feet in height opposite parks, public gardens, open spaces and the riverside; (2) buildings equal in height to the width of a street when that street is over 80 feet in width, provided that: (a) the rear angle is within  $63\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  of 16 feet above pavement level; (b) the structures are fire-resisting and fitted with staircases affording alternative means of escape; and (c) the elevations have been approved by the London County Council or the hoped-for Ministry of Fine Arts. Sir Martin Conway, M.P., who proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Joseph, strongly supported his suggestions. London, he urged, should be kept within its present boundaries and not be allowed to spread out over the surrounding

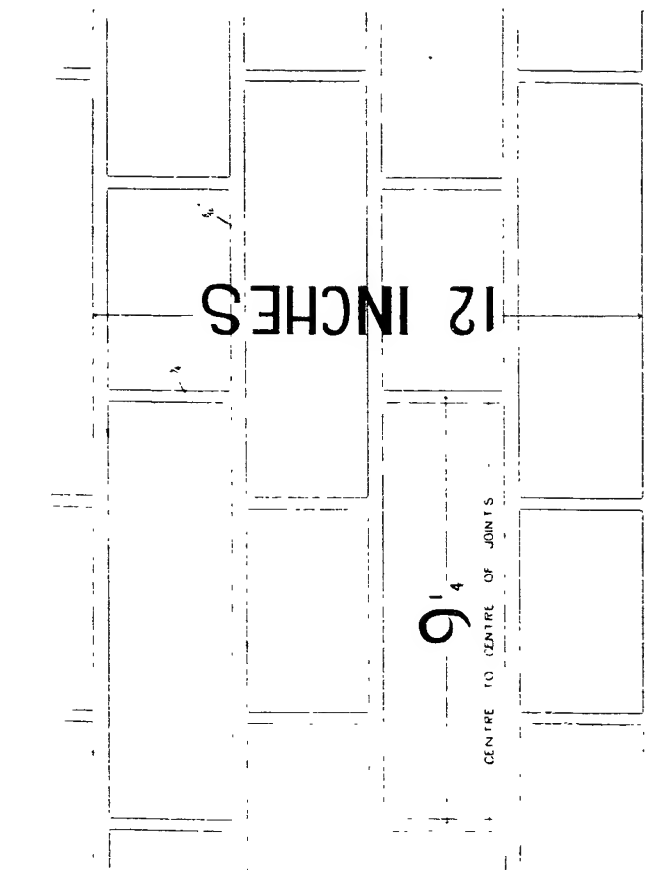
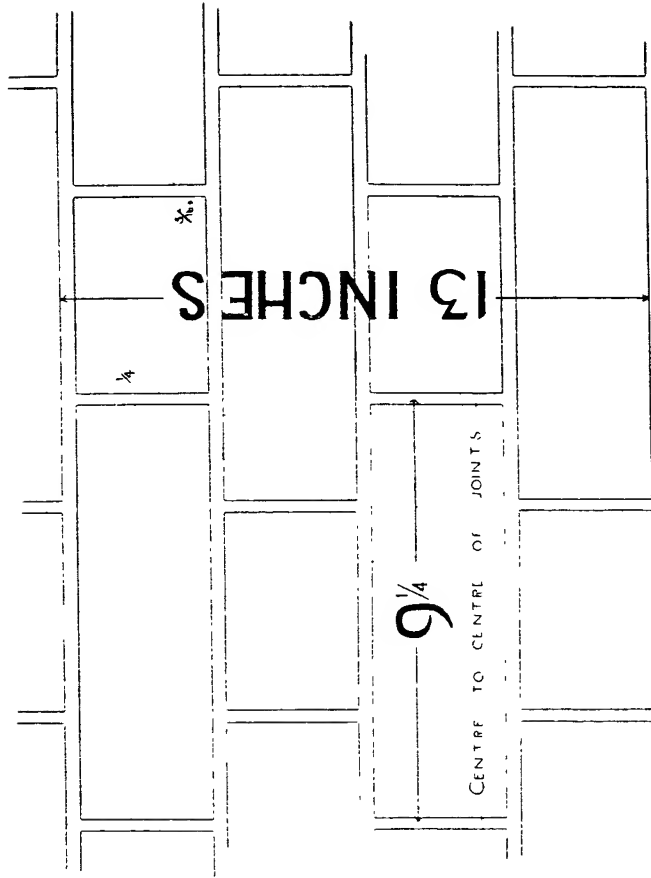
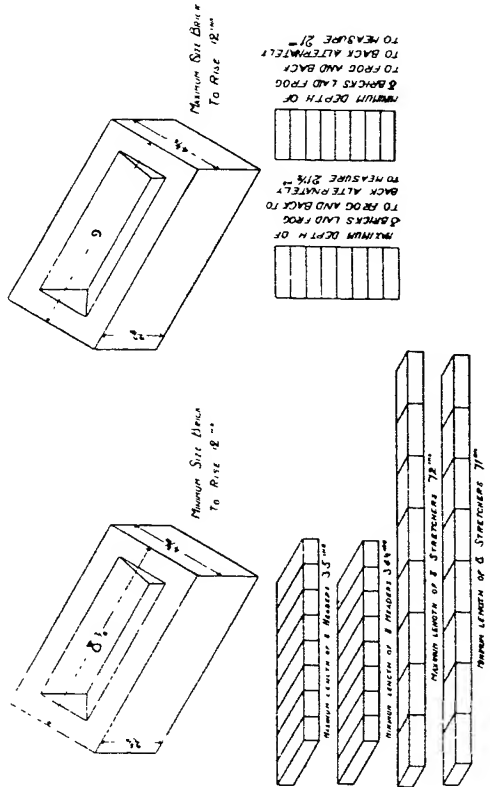
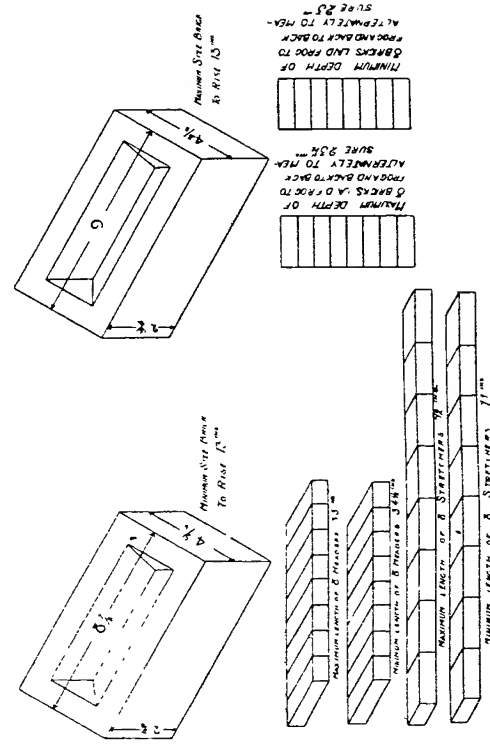
country. One result of the horizontal expansion was that about twenty of the City churches were recommended for demolition in order that office buildings might be erected on the sites: this would be avoided if higher buildings were erected. Mr. Andrew Taylor (late chairman of the L.C.C. Building Acts Committee) opposed the proposals, and recommended that fuller use should be made of the present Building Acts, which permitted eight or nine storey buildings, whereas in Central London alone there were few buildings of more than four or five storeys. Mr. J. Hopkins, M.P., concurred heartily with Mr. Joseph's views and recommendations; if adopted they would go a long way towards solving London's transport and traffic problem, seeing that with higher buildings they could insist on wider streets. Mr. R. W. Granville Smith, Chairman of the Improvements Committee, L.C.C., protested strongly against the proposals; if adopted, London would become an impossible place to live in. Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, R.A., thought it would be a great pity to rob London of its small share of sunlight; any raising of the general level of skyline would have a depressing effect; there were, however, positions where fine, well-designed buildings might be raised which would add that interest to London which was got, for instance, from a fine cathedral. Professor Beresford Pite advocated the removal of the 60-feet limit in commercial buildings and an extension to the 80-feet limit and two storeys above. The main problem, he contended, was a housing problem; in view of the high rate of mortality from pulmonary disease in places where high buildings for residential purposes were the rule, such buildings would have to be condemned by the health authority. Professor Adshead said that the present regulation was resulting in 80 feet of building and 20 feet of "jerrybuilding" on top. Mr. Walter Reynolds, Chairman of the Building Acts Committee, L.C.C., spoke of the impossibility in the present state of their knowledge of coping with an outbreak of fire in buildings of the height proposed; it would cost millions to adapt the fire-fighting appliances to such buildings. The President said he thought the County Council should have more power given them under the Acts to settle what is the economic height of a building; in certain positions buildings could be carried up to a greater height with advantage to everybody, while there are other positions in which they should not be carried even to the 80-feet limit.

#### Standard Sizes of Bricks.

For many years in every issue of the R.I.B.A. KALENDAR prior to that of the present year there have appeared particulars, with illustrative diagrams, of the "R.I.B.A. Standard Size of Bricks"—a standard which was agreed upon between the Institute and the Brickmakers' Association and which was drafted as follows in consultation with these bodies and with representatives of the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1904:—

1. The length of the brick should be double the width, plus the thickness of one vertical joint.

# R.I.B.A. STANDARD SIZES OF BRICKS.



2. Brickwork should measure four courses of bricks and four joints to a foot.

Joints should be  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick and an extra  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch, making  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch for the bed joints to cover irregularities in the bricks. This gives a standard length of  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches centre to centre of joints.

The bricks, laid dry, to be measured in the following manner:—

(a) Eight stretchers laid square end and splay end in contact in a straight line to measure 72 inches.

(b) Eight headers laid side to side, frog upwards, in a straight line to measure 35 inches.

(c) Eight bricks, the first brick frog downwards and then alternately frog to frog and back to back, to measure  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

A margin of 1 inch less will be allowed as to (a), and a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch less as to (b) and (c). This is to apply to all classes of walling bricks, both machine and hand-made.

In the early part of last year the Institute was requested to make some variations in the standard, and after consultation with the Allied Societies a conference was held on 28th June 1919, at which were present representatives of the R.I.B.A., the Institute of Clayworkers, the President of the Northern Federation of Building and Engineering Brick Trades, the Secretary of the Employers' National Council for the Clay Industries, and representatives of the South-Western District and Midland District. It was reported that the Northern Federation, which represents the six northern counties, had come to an agreement with the Government to make the standard size for bricks  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches in height. The Conference recommended that a second standard size should be added to the R.I.B.A. standard, all the dimensions to agree with the present standard except that four courses of bricks and four joints are to measure 13 inches. The maximum depth of eight bricks, laid frog to frog and back to back alternately, to measure  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The minimum depth of eight bricks laid similarly to measure 23 inches. This was approved by the R.I.B.A. Council on 21st July 1919.

The bed joints with the maximum bricks would be  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch, and with the minimum  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch to give 13 inches to four courses of bricks and four joints. This standard will apply to the counties of Northumberland, Cumberland, Durham, Westmorland, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

In a Paper read recently by Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood [F.] before the Institute of Clayworkers, the author expressed his regret at the introduction of this second standard, as it did away with much of the value of a standard brick, and architects and engineers will now have to select their bricks before working out their detail drawings. Both standards are illustrated in the accompanying diagrams.

#### The late Philip Thicknesse.

Mr. WALTER MILLARD [A.] writes:—

If I may add a line to Mr. Willink's obituary notice of his late partner, Philip Thicknesse, I should like to offer my testimony in support of the statement that he had the invaluable quality of making friends wherever he went. One he made, certainly, in coming

out to Verona in 1881, to meet me for the first time, accompanied by my friend of yet longer standing, Francis Hooper [F.]. We three together spent some happy weeks of a bright autumn in and about Venice, until the November sea-fog arose and drove us southward. Hooper was the first to turn homeward, and Thicknesse left me in Rome, about Christmas, recalled from easy-going pursuit of architectural subjects to the practical pursuit of his profession. To my sorrow I have seen very little of him ever since, but I can hardly imagine that even thirty-eight years of architectural practice would suffice appreciably to dim the vivacity, the readiness to argue on fifty subjects besides architecture, and the buoyant good nature of Philip Thicknesse as I knew him.

#### Local Housing Bonds.

The President and Mr. J. S. Gibson [F.] have been appointed by the Council to represent the Institute at the meeting to be held by the Lord Mayor at the Guildhall on the 12th April, when the Prime Minister will speak on Local Housing Bonds. Voluntary organisations which are co-operating with the Ministry of Health on Housing have been invited to send representatives to the meeting.

#### Cardiff Technical College Department of Architecture.

The new Department of Architecture and Civic Design at the Cardiff Technical College, which opens on the 12th April, will be in the charge of Mr. W. S. Purchon, M.A. [A.], who has resigned the headship of the School of Architecture at Sheffield, which he has held for twelve years, in order to take up the appointment. The arrangements of the new Department include a full-time course of study and, in addition, part-time courses for students who are already in offices as pupils. Mr. Purchon has been for nine years a member of the Board of Architectural Education. With his long experience at Sheffield and with the whole-hearted support promised the Department by the South Wales Institute of Architects, the new Welsh School may be confidently expected to develop into a sound, vigorous, and useful institution.

#### Mahogany Panelling by Alfred Stevens.

The London County Council, adopting a recommendation of their Local Government, Records and Museums Committee, have taken advantage of the sale of Wellington House, Hampstead, once the residence of the late Alfred Stevens, to acquire some mahogany panelling designed and executed by him for one of the rooms of the house.

#### Messrs. Batsford's Forthcoming Issues.

Mr. Aymer Vallance's work on *Old Crosses and Lychgates*, which will be published very shortly by Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., is the first to classify, according to their design, the various types erected in England, and the numerous illustrations from photographs and drawings include many fine crosses which have disappeared, or survive only in a mutilated form.

Messrs. Batsford are also issuing immediately *Ypres: The Holy Ground of British Arms*, a brief illustrated account of the city and battles by Lt.-Col. Beckles Willson, who will be remembered in connection with his film, "In the Ypres Salient."



## MINUTES.

At a Special General Meeting summoned "for the purpose of obtaining the sanction of the General Body of Members for the Council's proposals as the first step towards the unification and registration of the profession," and held Monday, 22nd March, 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 43 Fellows (including 19 members of the Council), 63 Associates (including 3 members of the Council), and 11 Licentiates:

The notice-paper containing the Interim Report of the Charter Committee was read, together with the following Resolutions to be submitted to the Meeting:

1. "That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to prepare and present for the consideration of the profession a more extended and comprehensive scheme than that covered by the Resolutions of 1914."

2. "That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to appoint a Committee representative of the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated in the report of the Charter Committee dated 20th February 1920."

The President explained the reasons for the course taken by the Council and, having moved the first resolution in the terms set out above, stated in reply to Mr. Sydney Perks [F.] that the General Body by passing the resolution would be in no way committed to any definite policy or scheme.

Mr. Horace Cubitt [A.] seconded the resolution.

An amendment, moved by Mr. Herbert A. Welch [A.] and seconded by Mr. Sydney Perks, to insert after the word "Scheme" the words "for the unification and registration of the profession" was put to the Meeting and carried—24 Fellows voting for and 19 against; 34 Associates for and 5 against.

The President, in answer to Mr. K. Gammell [A.] who deprecated the votes being taken of each class separately, explained that the object was to ascertain whether the requisite number of Fellows were present and to ensure that Licentiates were not voting.

A count taken by show of hands having shown that 43 Fellows and 63 Associates were present, the President ruled that further voting should be taken *en bloc*.

The Resolution as amended having been put from the Chair it was

RESOLVED, unanimously, that this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposals to prepare and present for the consideration of the profession a more extended and comprehensive scheme for the unification and registration of the profession than that covered by the Resolutions of 1914.

The President briefly outlined the steps to be taken in carrying out the proposal referred to in the second resolution, and thereupon moved the resolution in the terms set out in the notice-paper, and adding the composition of the Committee as set out in Clause 3 (a) to (g) of the Charter Committee's Interim Report.

Mr. Paul Waterhouse [F.] seconded the resolution.

To meet a suggestion by Mr. H. C. Corlette [F.] the President agreed to the deletion of the words "in the United Kingdom," so as to include on the Committee representatives of Allied Societies overseas.

Mr. George Hubbard [F.] having raised a point as to the Belfast Society, which not being an Allied Society would be unrepresented, the President stated that the point would be met by amending the last category so as to read "Architects not belonging to any of the above-mentioned professional organizations."

The second resolution, as amended, was then put from the Chair, and it was

RESOLVED, unanimously, that this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to appoint a Committee

representative of the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated in the Report of the Charter Committee dated 20th February 1920,—the Committee to be composed of (a) representatives of the Royal Institute of British Architects, (b) representatives of the Allied Societies, (c) representatives of the Architectural Association, (d) representatives of the Society of Architects, (e) representatives of the Official Architects' Association, (f) representatives of the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union, (g) representatives of architects not belonging to any of the above-mentioned professional organizations.

The Meeting terminated at 9.30 p.m.

At a Special General Meeting held Monday, 29th March, 1920.—Present: Mr. John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 26 Fellows (including 14 members of the Council), 28 Associates (including 3 members of the Council), 6 Licentiates, and several visitors—the President announced the object of the Meeting—viz., to elect the Royal Gold Medallist for the current year.

On the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Arthur Keen, Hon. Secretary, it was

RESOLVED, unanimously, that subject to His Majesty's gracious sanction the Royal Gold Medal for the promotion of Architecture be presented this year to M. Charles Louis Girault, Membre de l'Institut de France [Hon. Corr. M.] in recognition of the merit of his executed work.

The Special General Meeting then terminated.

At the Eleventh General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 29th March, following the Special General Meeting above recorded, and similarly constituted—the Minutes of the Meeting held 15th March having been published in the JOURNAL were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of the following members:—Robert Page, *Fellow*, elected 1891; Arthur Sutton Gover, *Retired Fellow*, elected *Associate* 1882, *Fellow* 1889; Lorne de H. Hutton, *Associate*, elected 1916; Nevison William De Courcy, *Licentiate*.

Mr. Philip Waddington Hubbard, M.A., *Associate*, was introduced by his father, Mr. George Hubbard, F.S.A. [F.] and formally admitted by the President.

Mr. Delissa Joseph [F.] having read a Paper on "HIGHER BUILDINGS FOR LONDON," a discussion ensued and on the motion of Sir Martin Conway, M.P., seconded by Mr. Andrew Taylor, L.C.C. [R.F.], a vote of thanks was passed to him by acclamation.

The Meeting terminated at 10.25 p.m.

## ALLIED SOCIETIES.

## The South Wales Institute of Architects.

A meeting, convened and presided over by the President of the above Institute—Mr. Ivor Jones [A.], of Cardiff—was held at Newport on 22nd March, when it was decided to form a branch of the Institute for Newport and District. The objects are to further the interests of the profession in the district, and to provide special facilities for study amongst the younger members of the profession, stimulating their interest by competitions throughout South Wales. It has been generally felt that decentralisation would better serve the needs of so large an area as that embraced by the present body, and make for greater unity amongst its widely diffused members by enabling them to get into touch with one another in their own district, and also by bringing into the Society members of the profession whom time and distance have prevented from attending the meetings at Cardiff, thus making the Society truly representative of the whole of the architectural profession in

South Wales. It is intended to make the new branch self-governing within its own district, whilst still actively co-operating with the Council of the S.W. Institute, on which it will have direct representation. For this purpose the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Messrs. C. F. Ward [F.], President; C. E. Tebbs [A.], Hon. Sec.; Frank Swash [F.], Treasurer and Librarian. Committee: Messrs. Walter Rosser, M.S.A., C. E. Page [*Licentiate*], R. Fisher, A. F. Webb, and H. Rowe.

#### The Natal Institute of Architects.

The annual general meeting of this Institute was held in the secretary's office, Field Street Buildings, on the 5th March, the President, Mr. W. S. Payne [A.], in the chair. The President, in the course of his address, said that the Durban Corporation had from time to time placed commissions in the hands of local practising architects in accordance with the practice of the past few years, and according to a recently affirmed resolution of the Town Council. Members of the Institute had been invited to act in connection with local war memorials, and had taken an active part on the Municipal Joint Committee. An Architectural Registration Bill was of the utmost importance to the profession, and a conference, at which he had the honour of representing the Natal Institute of Architects, was held at Cape Town in January. The resolutions adopted at this Conference were endorsed by a largely attended conference of Natal Architects held later in the year in Durban. During the year under review, communications were sent to the Durban Town Council and to the Eshowe Local Board taking exception to the conditions of competitions promoted by these bodies, in each case probably with good results. A draft petition signed by practically all Natal architects was presented to the Provincial Council through one of the local members, with the object of inducing the Public Works Department to engage local architects to design and superintend Government work carried out in the Province, instead of, as at present, doing the work departmentally.

Looking to the future, Mr. Payne said that it appeared to him that great benefits would result to the profession by the establishment of registration throughout the Union, and the Institute would greatly welcome the next forward move in this direction. Union registration was the object to be aimed at, but failing this, he thought they should seriously consider the advisability of moving in the direction of local registration, as a step to an ultimate object.

#### Honours and Appointments; Professional Notices.

Sir Edwin Lutyens, A.R.A. [F.] has been promoted to full rank as Royal Academician.

Brigadier-General A. B. Hubback, C.M.G., D.S.O. [F.], has been appointed to command the 5th Brigade of the 2nd London Division [T.].

Mr. A. O. Collard [F.], on the nomination of the Civil Service Commissioners, has been invited by the Treasury to a seat on their Selection Board in connection with certain Government technical appointments.

Mr. Theodore Fyfe's telephone number at his new office address, 2, Gray's Inn Square, W., is "Holborn 2126."

### NOTICES.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held Monday 3rd May, 1920, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the meeting held 12th April, 1920; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To receive the ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, &c.

### COMPETITIONS.

Hornsey War Memorial.  
Borough of Batley: Ward's Hill Improvement.  
Lockerbie War Memorial.  
Cleethorpes Peace Memorial.  
Arthuret War Memorial.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiatees to the fact that the conditions of the above Competitions are unsatisfactory. The Competitions Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiatees are advised to take no part in the Competitions.

### THE EXAMINATIONS.

The Scale of Examination Fees is now as follows:—

Preliminary .. .. .	£3	3	0
Intermediate .. .. .	4	4	0
Final .. .. .	5	5	0
Special Final .. .. .	7	7	0
Special War Exemption (open only to registered Students R.I.B.A.) .. .. .	5	5	0
Special War Examination .. .. .	7	7	0
Special Overseas Examination .. .. .	7	7	0
Licentiatees' Fellowship Examination .. .. .	7	7	0
Statutory .. .. .	3	3	0
Building Surveyors .. .. .	3	3	0

By Order of the Council,

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

#### Price of R.I.B.A. Publications.

The Council have adopted a recommendation of the Finance and House Committee and have ordered that the price of all R.I.B.A. publications be at once increased by 50 per cent.

#### Openings for Architects' Assistants.

Several architects' assistants are required for Public Works Department, Pretoria, S. Africa. Salaries ranging from £440 to £632, according to grade. Apply in the first place to J. A. Swan, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., Daimler House, Paradise Street, Birmingham.

An Architectural Draughtsman (A.R.I.B.A.) is wanted for the Public Works Department, Gold Coast. Salary £500, rising to £600. Applications to be addressed to The Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

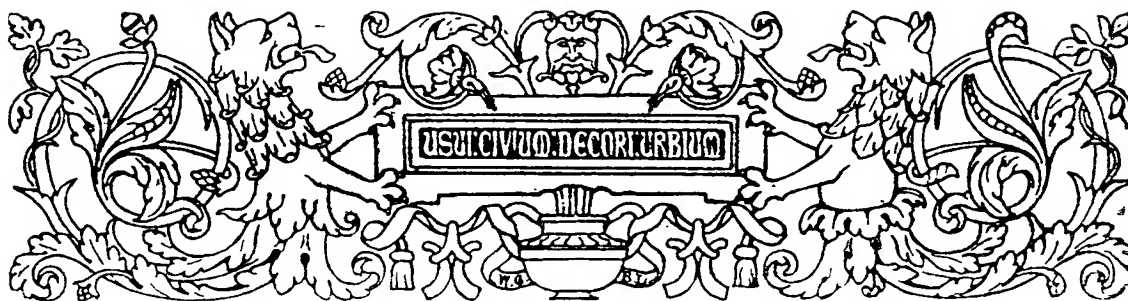
A fully qualified and experienced Architect's Assistant wanted for Hankow. Work will consist of design of semi-public buildings, office blocks, residential flats, etc. A.R.I.B.A. preferred, not more than 40. Salary 400 dollars (Mex.) per month. Address Mr. F. S. Reynolds, 401 Abington Park Parade, Northampton.

SENIOR ASSISTANT required in Architect's office. Salary £5 ss. per week.—Apply by letter only, Mr. C. Austen Hall, 6, New Burlington Street, W.1.

AN ASSOCIATE with very varied experience as an assistant in offices of well-known architects desires to work up perspectives or special drawings for competitions or other purposes for architect's including such assistance, specialties, pencil drawing, domestic work and housing schemes.—Address J. S. c/o 8 Octavia R.I.B.A.

PARTNERSHIP—Architect with work in hand. Terms Partnership in established practice out of London (southern counties preferred). Willing to purchase or invest.—Address Box 16329, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

A.P.I.B.A. (18) 20 years' varied experience. London and provinces' desires appointment as chief assistant with view to Partnership, town or country.—J. W. Edmunds, 72 Ederline Avenue, Norbury, S.W. 16.



To Thomas Hardy, O.M., Hon.F.R.I.B.A.

## A WAR MEMORIAL OF THE LAST CENTURY.

By THE PRESIDENT.

FROM the parapet of its "square solid tower" on the Quantocks, the Laodicean lady of Stancy Castle must have marked, time and again, the monumental pillars with which the heights of Outer Wessex are crowned in honour of her glorious sons. Far eastward, the Hood Column\* with its splendid Naval crown of masonry pricking the Butleigh breast of the Poldens; next, Capability Brown's pillar in the grounds of Pitt's house at Pynsent; and, due south of Stancy, the Wellington needle on the Blackdowns above Taunton;—"Toneborough, where I am erecting a town hall," as "Mr. Havill an architect of Markton, . . . author of most of the noteworthy buildings in the neighbourhood," calls it. This was in the 'seventies, before the issue of austere R.I.B.A. "Regulations for Architectural Competitions"; and the peculiar resemblance of the design prepared by the gentleman in question to that of his rival competitor, seems to have caused no misgiving in the simple Institute minds of those days, to whom both were submitted. "Singularly equal and singularly good. She would do well to accept either. Signed So-and-so, Fellows of the Royal Institute of British Architects." ran, as we are told, their surprising award. Mr. Havill's standard of professional morality was certainly deplorable; although he protested "I peeped at his drawing—that's all!" we know that he had made a tracing of it. But "So-and-so," by reason of their affixes, must have been competent and, by the same token, incorruptible. How, then, account for two "original and fascinating" drawings, "identical except in ornamental details," exciting neither remark nor enquiry by the Assessors? The matter is closed; it is useless, and might prove painful, to investigate further, *étouffons l'affaire*; moreover, it has nothing whatever to do with our story.

\* \* \* \*

The second decade of the nineteenth century, as of the twentieth, saw the termination of a terrible war by a decisive British victory; then, as now, the nation sought, by outward and visible signs, to preserve the memory of its heroes for all time. To this end, a Committee of gentlemen met at the Thatched House Tavern in Saint James's Street, on the 19th January 1816, and passed with unanimity the following Resolutions:—

- "1st. *Resolved.* That when the subscription shall have continued open for the space of one year from this date, the sum of fifty guineas shall be given for the best plan or model of the column to be erected in honour of the splendid victories gained by his Grace the Duke of Wellington.
- "2nd. That a contract shall be entered into with such Architects as shall engage to execute the design, as approved, in the cheapest and best manner—regard being had to durability and effect..
- "3rd. That the said building shall be erected in the course of three years, from the period when the design shall be delivered over to the person who shall be chosen to execute the same."

\* Who was the designer of this noble and vigorous composition? The County Histories do not mention his name,

and local antiquarian research has failed to trace it. Can any of our readers rescue it from most undeserved oblivion?

The resolutions indicate some confusion in the minds of the Committee as to the respective functions of Architect and Contractor, and our curiosity as to how the competition was conducted is not gratified. But a design emanated in due course, and this we find described (with a wood-cut of which we reproduce a *fac-simile*) in "A Letter to Lord Portman with some particulars respecting the Wellington Monument in Somersetshire, by Arthur Kinglake\*." Were it not for the absence of the familiar claim that its merit "depends rather on grouping and composition than on elaboration of detail," we might assume it to be quoted textually from the architect's "competition Report":—

"The plan of the Pillar is triangular, which form will produce the effect of a square constructed on the same base or of a circle whose diameter is equal to a side of the triangle (*sic*), consequently a saving of one half in materials is effected. The basement of the Design is formed by a circular flight of steps eighty feet in diameter and eight feet in height, divided by three blocks projecting from the angle of the base of the Pillar. These blocks are to be appropriated to Dwellings for an English, Irish and Scotch veteran."

The economy of material, and the exiguous height of the "Dwellings" in this National Housing Scheme, would have appealed to Dr. Addison; but the drawings might have been returned by the Regional Commissioner with a suggestion that doors and windows, which are omitted in the Design, should be provided.

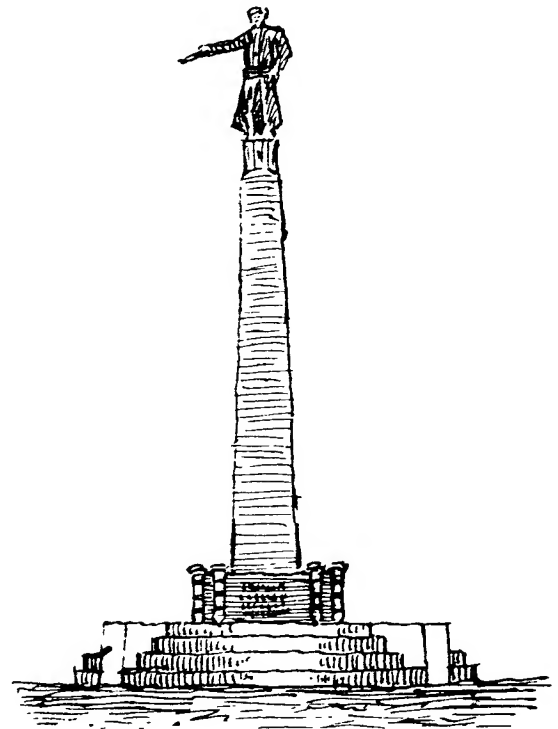
"From the circular basement," continues our authority, "rises the triangular plinth of the Pillar presenting three faces for an Inscription in different languages. The angles are defended and ornamented with three brass cannon selected from those taken at the battle of Waterloo and presented by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent."

"The plinth immediately supports the prismatic shaft of the Pillar ninety five feet in height, diminishing from seventeen feet in diameter (*sic*) to eleven at the top. A perforated circular pedestal ornamented with wreaths surmounts the Pillar, supporting a Colossal Statue in cast iron, of the illustrious Duke of Wellington, in the attitude of commanding, represented in the dress he wore at the Glorious battle of Waterloo."

"The total height, including the figure, is 140 feet."

"An entrance to the Pillar is contrived by a concealed flight of steps, descending from the top of the Terrace on the basement; thence a subterranean passage leads to a vaulted corridor reserved between the plinth and the shaft of the Pillar. On one side of the corridor, and opposite the arch of the Entrance passage, a door-way opens to stairs in the centre of the Pillar, conducting to the circular pedestal under the Figure, through the perforations of which, both seas will be distinctly visible."

The problem of reconstructing the "dynamic symmetry" of this monument from the description given may serve to beguile the night watches of some sleepless student on the eve of his "Final," and he may ride his choice of night-mare plans and sections through the subterranean passage and vaulted corridor, in desperate hope of escape by an impossible stair. "Both seas" still ebb and flow, but, alas!



*The Design.*

[From a Woodcut]

\* Father of the famous author of *Eothen*, and the *History of the War in the Crimea*. The Kinglakes were Taunton folk.

as we shall see, neither he nor any other may find his way to the pedestal under the Figure " through the perforations of which " they were to be " distinctly visible."

\* \* \* \*

Next year, the *Taunton Courier*, of 23rd October 1817, reports the proceedings at the laying of the Foundation stone, with Lord Somerville's speech, in which he announces that " The Architect gladly offers to contribute one half the amount of his profit on the superintendence, in order to have the honour of adding his name to the list of subscribers." Whether this honour was a condition of his employment, the result of delicate suggestion with which he felt it wise to comply (such things have been known !), or claimed as of his own " mere motion," we may believe as we prefer ; it clearly implied no mention of his name. However this may be, the Committee seem to have placed little confidence either in their own judgment or in that of their honoured architect ; for, later in his Lordship's speech occurs this passage, " The Ancients not having adopted this form of building " (he refers evidently to the triangular plan), " it was suspected that some latent but solid objection must exist as to its adoption, therefore the drawing of the Pillar was shown to Mr. Soane, Professor of Architecture, who has expressed his approval."

Even Soane's opinion did not reassure the Committee, who proceeded to show the design to " various other men of science and taste " ; among them being " the person who has charge of the public buildings at Edinburgh." The reply of this " person " is a model of skilfully evaded responsibility. " My Lord," he writes from Edinburgh under date of 10th June 1817, " In consequence of " your permission I have shewed the drawing of the Triangular Pillar to various gentlemen of acknowledged taste, as well as to Professional men of reputation " (the distinction drawn here is delightful !) " and I have much satisfaction in stating, that the result is very favourable to the plan, and likewise " to the elevation of it. The great saving in building materials and of labor, which accrues by adopting " the Triangular form, is considered to outweigh (where saving of expense is an object) any objection " that can be urged against it ; and although not found among the works of the ancients, there " appears no good reason why it may not be used by their posterity. . . . "\*"

It was all in vain. The soul of the Committee was profoundly disquieted by the proposed departure from the methods of " the Ancients " and found no solace in the comfortable words of tasteful and reputable posterity. Wisdom, it seemed, must be sought in a greater multitude of counsellors, and, continues Lord Somerville despairingly : " I took occasion to wait on as many Subscribers, Marquises, Earls, Viscounts, and M.P.'s as possible, and "—his relief sighs in our sympathising ears through a century of time—" in no solitary instance has any objection been made."

Being thus, at last, assured as to its triangular propriety, " Their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York, Clarence, and Cambridge have condescended to subscribe to the erection of this Pillar."

The ceremonial proceedings were ended by a " most excellent dinner," with many toasts and speeches ; the chief honours falling, as one gathers, to Captain Crofton, R.N., whose speech in reply to " the Wooden Walls of Old England " is punctuated with " (continued applause)." The *Taunton Courier* shall complete the chronicle :—

" Had our illustrious Chief " (continued Capt. C.) " being [*sic*] present that day, on that high " point of land overlooking this country, and destined to immortalize the place where he was " honoured by his title ;—had he heard the exulting thunders of applause, of thousands of his country-men, from the Peer to the peasant,—we might venture to assert that he would have experienced an " emotion scarcely less, than when he stood on the heights of the Pyrenees, looking down to the vales " of France amid the ' Earthquake shout of Victory.' The Honble. Baronet has justly termed this " Column the child of him who I feel proud and honoured in calling my friend. I cannot avoid

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\* This letter is signed " W. Trotter."

"saying that it is, indeed, his offspring, under the happiest auspices fostered by his care, and adopted by the affection of a whole country.

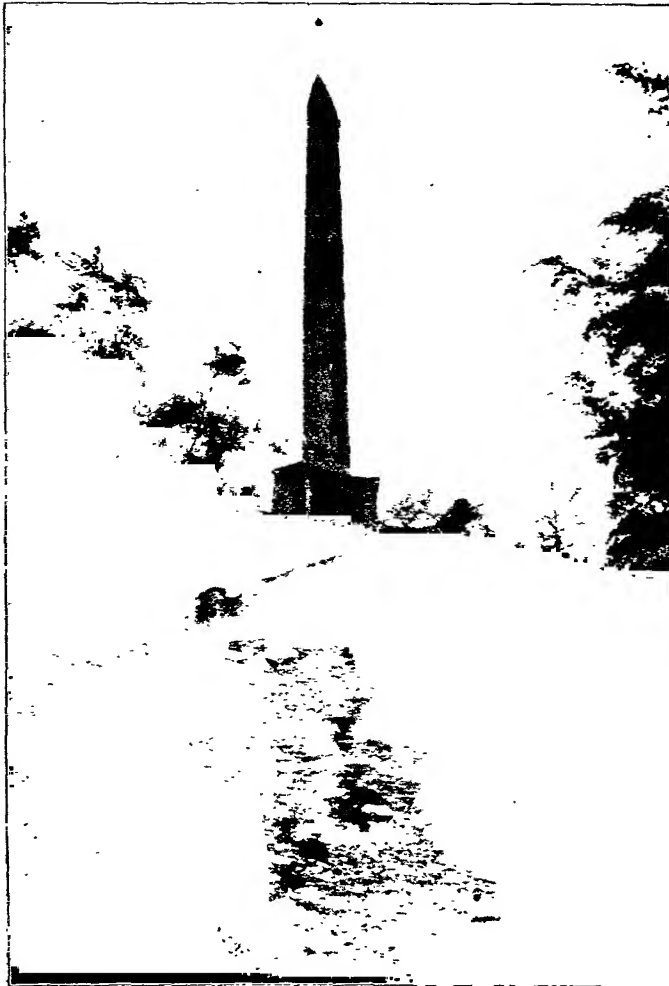
"This energetic and unpremeditated effusion of British feeling, was interrupted in its delivery by the repeated cheerings of the company.

"The President then submitted to the company the health of Mr. Lee, the architect" (whose name thus emerges for the first time), "who though a young man, had exhibited on this and other occasions, the most decisive proofs of extraordinary skill and merit. His abilities he felt confident would secure to him an early and honourable eminence in his profession (applause).

"After a course of enlightened conviviality, admirably sustained by the President throughout the evening, the company separated about 9 o'clock."

\* \* \* \*

The little epic ends in a minor strain. Despite the brave beginning, the stone laid with due rites and libations, the gods were not propitious; *apicem rapax Fortuna sustulit*, and the monument was



THE WELLINGTON MONUMENT.

[From a photograph]

never built to its full height. "That thing don't take, eh?" said the Iron Duke, grimly contemplating its unfinished state. In January 1853, as appears from the report of one Charles E. Giles, the truncated shaft had fallen into grievous disrepair, the summit being "quite open and apparently unfinished." The sandstone facing of its flint walls had crumbled "entirely into ruin," and the core of the pedestal was exposed "in many cases for several feet in length." One of the angles had been rent by lightning two years before, and examination revealed (ah! that half of the "profit on the superintendence" which the architect was honoured to forego) "an almost entire want of bond between the sandstone facing and the flint backing or rubble-work." As for the inscription recording its erection "in basso relievo of cast iron," this, too, had been "nearly entirely" removed.

A subscription was raised; the column restored and completed in its present state—perhaps by "Mr. Havill of Markton," certainly not by his rival, George Somerset, who was then but a babe. I doubt if Paula's father subscribed to the cost; he would probably have had a "conscientious objection" to spending anything on a structure

which reminded him of the valour which had saved his country, and left him free—to amass wealth and buy Stancy Castle.

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1919-1920.

**S**INCE the publication of the last Annual Report the Council have held 19 meetings. The following Committees appointed by the Council have met and reported from time to time on the matters referred to them :

Architects' War Committee and Sub-Committees.	Finance and House Committee.
Board of Architectural Education.	Fellowship Drawings Committee.
Building Industries Consultative Board.	Royal Gold Medal Committee.
Central Consultative Board for Housing in the London Area.	R.I.B.A. War Memorial Committee.
Charter Committee.	Scale of Fees for Housing Schemes Committee.
Competitions Committee.	Sessional Papers Committee.
Conditions of Contract Revision Committee.	Town Planning Committee.
Exemption of War Service Candidates Conference.	

Brief particulars of the work of some of these Committees are embodied in this Report.

**Obituary.** The losses by death have been as follows :—

FELLOWS.		
Alder : John Samuel.	Harper : Ewen.	Skirving : Alexander.
Ashbee : William Neville.	Page : Robert.	Thicknesse : Philip Coldwell.
Catlow : Walter Albert.	Pick : Samuel Perkins.	Vaughan : Edwin Montgomery
Hammond : Frederic.		Bruce.
ASSOCIATES.		
Billing : Arthur Ernest.	Currie : John Kirkwood.	Jones : Cyril H. Montagu.
Campbell : Archibald Neil.	Hewitt : Walter Ernest.	Ogden : Herbert.
Coates : Lister.	Hill : Richard Henry Ernest.	Orme : Robert William.
Coward : Frederick George.	Hudson : Edward William.	Williams : Stanley Hurst.
Crace : Louis Paxton.	Jacques : William.	Woodington : Harold Arthur.
LICENTIATES.		
Breeds : Arthur Owen.	Gutteridge : Alfred Fowler.	Smith : James Buchanan Pentland.
Carrington : Arthur John Pearson.	Kirby : Frank Moore.	Thomas : Charles Frederick.
Crawford : Charles.	Maidman : Edward Charles Henry.	Vaughan : Hugh.
Day : John.	Martinson : Matthew George.	Walton : Henry Denison.
De Courcy : Nevison William.	Ogden : George.	White : Joseph Dixon.
Gardiner : Frederick William.	Oliver : Charles Bryan.	Witts : Francis H.
	Sharp : Abraham.	

RETIRED FELLOWS.	
Lee : John Thomas.	Gover : Arthur Sutton.

HONORARY FELLOW.
Poynter : Sir Edward, Bart., G.C.V.O., Past President R.A.

HONORARY ASSOCIATE.
Crace : John Dibblee.

HONORARY CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.	
Buls : Charles (Brussels).	Krug : Jorge Henry (Brazil).

In addition to these losses the Council have to record the death of 11 Associates, 9 Licentiates and 28 Students and Probationers who fell in the war. Particulars of these are given on a later page of this Report.

**Membership.** The following table shows the present subscribing Membership of the Royal Institute compared with the preceding five years :—

	Fellows.	Assoc.ates.	Hon. Associates.	Total.
1915	857	1,713	54	2,624
1916	852	1,679	52	2,583
1917	842	1,656	48	2,546
1918	838	1,631	45	2,514
1919	834	1,720	46	2,600
1920	863	1,773	44	2,680

During the official year since the last Annual General Meeting 56 Fellows and 168 Associates have been elected, as against 12 Fellows and 120 Associates the previous year.

**Licentiates.** There are now 1,715 Licentiates on the roll. Since the publication of the last Annual Report 13 Licentiates have passed the examination qualifying for election to the Fellowship, and 8 have been duly elected as Fellows.



**The Examinations.** During the year 135 candidates for the Probationership have furnished the Council with satisfactory evidence of their attainments, and have been registered as Probationers. The Intermediate and Final Examinations have been held once only during the official year—viz., in June. The following table giving the results of the examinations shows that 45 Students have been added to the Register during the year, and that 9 candidates have passed the Final or Special Examinations qualifying for Associateship:—

	Exempted.	Examined	Passed.	Relegated.
INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATIONS . . . . .	42	4	3	1
FINAL AND SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS . . . . .	—	18	9	9

In addition 106 candidates have passed the Special War Examination, and of these 63 have been elected as Associates, and 104 war candidates have been exempted from the Final Examination and have qualified for Associateship.

The statutory examination qualifying for candidature as District Surveyor in London was not held in the year 1919.

The Council tender their grateful acknowledgments to the Honorary Examiners for their services:

**Arbitrators.** During the year the President has appointed the following members to act as Arbitrators in connection with building disputes:—

Major Harry Barnes. M.P. [F.]	Sir Charles Nicholson [F.]
Max Clarke [F.]	H. D. Searles Wood [F.]
Alfred W. S. Cross [F.]	Lewis Solomon [F.]
E. Guy Dawber [F.]	

**Assessors.** Since the issue of the last Annual Report the President has appointed the following Assessors:—

Cottage Hospital (War Memorial), Waltham Abbey—Mr. H. H. Wigglesworth.  
Houses for the Working Classes, Sherwood Site—Nottingham—Mr. J. Alfred Gotch.  
Laying-out estate, Newcastle—Mr. W. A. Harvey.  
Brentwood Grammar School (enlargement)—Mr. H. P. Burke Downing.  
Aylesbury Housing Scheme—Mr. C. H. B. Quennell.  
Leamington Spa—Mr. H. V. Ashley.  
Congregational Church and School, Gerrard's Cross—Mr. H. Austen Hall.  
Boys' Secondary School Competition, Southport—Mr. Maurice E. Webb.  
Housing Scheme Competition, Gravesend—Mr. Herbert W. Wills.  
Workmen's Dwellings Competition, Baildon—Mr. S. D. Kitson.  
West Hartlepool War Memorial Competition—Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A.  
Lay-out of Hey's Estate, Ashton-under-Lyne—Mr. P. S. Worthington.  
R.E. War Memorial Competition—Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A.  
Victoria Hall, Exeter—Sir A. Brumwell Thomas.  
Girls' Secondary School, Truro—Mr. H. P. Burke Downing.  
War Memorial, Orpington—Mr. Walter Cave.  
Chatham Housing Lay-out—Mr. E. Guy Dawber.  
Willesden Hospital—War Memorial—Mr. Edwin T. Hall.  
Kenilworth War Memorial Competition—Mr. H. T. Buckland.  
Peterborough and District War Memorial New Infirmary—Mr. Edwin T. Hall.  
Messrs. Samuel Allsopp and Sons, Ltd. (model public house)—Mr. W. Curtis Green.

**Mr. Hare's Portrait.** The portrait of Mr. Henry T. Hare, Past President, painted by Sir Wm. Llewellyn. A.R.A., was formally presented to the Institute at the meeting of the 23rd February. The portrait will be hung in this year's Royal Academy Exhibition.

**Grants.** Since the issue of the last Annual Report the Council have made the following grants:—

Architects' Demobilisation Committee . . . . .	£25	0	0
Architects' Benevolent Society . . . . .	100	0	0
Conjoint Board of Scientific Societies . . . . .	20	0	0
Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers for Research Work . . . . .	10	10	0
Joint Committee on Corrosion of Brass and Copper Fittings . . . . .	10	0	0
Architectural Association . . . . .	100	0	0

**Royal Gold Medal.** The Royal Gold Medal for Architecture in 1919 was awarded to Mr. Leonard Stokes. This year the Medal is to be awarded to Monsieur Charles Louis Girault, Hon. Corresponding Member, in recognition of the merit of his executed work. His Majesty has graciously signified his approval of the award.

During the Session the Council have made the following appointments of members to represent the Royal Institution on the various bodies or for the purposes indicated :—

#### Appointments.

Conference at Institution of Civil Engineers on methods of testing engineering and other important materials—Messrs. H. D. Searles Wood and Max Clarke.  
 Royal Sanitary Institute Congress, Newcastle-on-Tyne—Messrs. H. D. Searles Wood and R. Burns Dick.  
 General Council National Registration of Plumbers—Mr. George Hubbard.  
 Deputation to Ministry of Health on fees for housing work—The President, Mr. Henry T. Hare, and Major Harry Barnes, M.P.  
 British Engineering Standards Committee—Mr. C. Stanley Peach.  
 Standing Committee on Water Regulations—Two Members of the Science Standing Committee.  
 Committee of Department of Overseas Trade to organise Exhibition of Timber grown within British Empire—Mr. Arthur Keen.  
 Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union Welfare Committee—Mr. Walter Cave.  
 British Engineering Standards Association, Sub-Committee on Overhead Transmission Line Material—Mr. C. Stanley Peach.  
 Ditto, Sectional Committee on Pipe Threads—Mr. C. Stanley Peach.  
 Ditto, Sub-Committee on Metal Tubes and Connections—Mr. Digby L. Solomon.  
 Royal Sanitary Institute 31st Congress and Exhibition, Birmingham, July, 1920—Messrs. H. D. Searles Wood and Herbert Buckland.  
 University of London Architectural Education Committee—Messrs. Paul Waterhouse and Arthur Keen.  
 Conference at University College on Research Work in Heating and Ventilation—Mr. George Hubbard.  
 Professional Classes War Relief Council Conference on Relief Organisation for Professional Classes—Mr. W. Hilton Nash.  
 Ancient Monuments Board for England—Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., for period 1920-1925.  
 Architectural Representative on the Interviewing Board at the Ministry of Labour—Mr. George Hubbard.  
 Unhealthy Areas Committee, to give evidence as to erection of tenement dwellings—Mr. James S. Gibson.  
 State-Aided Housing Schemes—Advisory Committees on Production of Materials—representatives in 11 districts.  
 Deputation to Dr. Addison on preparation of Housing Schemes by Local Authorities—Messrs. Henry T. Hare, John W. Simpson, Professor S. D. Adshead, Major Harry Barnes, M.P., Arthur Keen, and Paul Waterhouse.  
 Building Industries Consultative Board—The President, Mr. Henry T. Hare, Major Harry Barnes, M.P., and Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A.  
 Deputation to Dr. Addison on restriction of Luxury Building—Messrs. Ernest Newton, R.A., Henry T. Hare, C. Stanley Peach, Herbert Buckland, Walter Cave, Arthur Keen, Edwin J. Sadgrove representing Society of Architects.  
 Conference with Allied Societies on Election of War Service Candidates—The President, Professor S. D. Adshead, A. W. S. Cross, Walter Cave, E. Guy Dawber, Arthur Keen, Paul Waterhouse, and C. Stanley Peach.

#### Sessional.

#### Papers.

The following papers have been read since the issue of the last Annual Report :—

23 April 1919.—Conclusion of Sir Frank Baines' Paper on "War Factories and Sheds."  
 26 May 1919.—"Railroad Terminals of the United States," by Mr. Benjamin J. Lubschez of New York, read by Mr. Arthur Keen [F.]  
 16 June 1919.—"An Architect's War Experiences in France and the Balkans," by Mr. Edward P. Warren [F.]  
 17 Nov. 1919.—"The Problem of London Housing," by Mr. W. R. Davidge [A.]  
 15 Dec. 1919.—"London Town Planning Schemes in 1666," by Mr. Sydney Perks [F.]  
 19 Jan. 1920.—"Citizenship," by Mr. Halsey Ricardo [F.]  
 16 Feb. 1920.—"The Future of Architectural Education," by Mr. Paul Waterhouse [F.]  
 15 Mar. 1920.—"The Planning of some American Department Stores," by Mr. H. Austen Hall [F.]  
 22 Mar. 1920.—"Greek Design," by Mr. Jay Hambidge.  
 29 Mar. 1920.—"Higher Buildings for London," by Mr. Delissa Joseph [F.]  
 12 April 1920.—"Architecture in India," by Mr. John Begg [F.]

#### The R.I.B.A. Record of Honour.

According to the Royal Institute records, Members, Licentiates and Students who served with the Forces during the War number altogether 79 Fellows, 540 Associates, 336 Licentiates, and 300 Students. The list, however, is still incomplete, and Members whose names have not been received are asked to send them to the Secretary. The following is a further list of Members, Licentiates and Students who have fallen :—

ASSOCIATES.			
CARMICHAEL: DAVID A.	Lieut.		Missing, presumed killed.
FRASER: HENRY HUBERT	Lieut., 3rd Yorks Regiment		Missing, presumed killed.
HUTTON: LORNE DE HUTTON			
MANN: HENRY WILLIAM	Lieut., Royal Field Artillery		Killed in action.
MILNE: DAVID	2nd Lieut., Hants Cyclist Battalion.		Killed in action.
NOTLEY: ALBERT CARR	Lancashire Regiment		Killed in action.
PECKHAM: ARTHUR NYTON.	Indian Army Officers' Reserve.		Accidentally killed.
SAGAR: WILLIAM HENRY	Sergt., Royal Engineers		Reported dead.
SHIELD: JAMES EDWARD COLEMAN			Killed in action.
WHEATLEY: JOSEPH HORACE LYNEHAM	2nd Lieut.		Missing, believed killed.
WILLIAMS: STANLEY H.	Lieut., 6th Wilts Regiment		Died of wounds.
LICENTIATES.			
BARCLAY: FERGUSSON	Captain, Royal Air Force		Killed in action.
BEATTIE-BROWN: WILLIAM	Captain, Northumberland Fusiliers.		Killed in action.
EDWARDS: JOHN PERCIVAL	Company Sergt.-Major, Royal Fusiliers		Killed in action.

LICENTIATES— <i>continued</i> .		
ELLIS: EDWARD MILLER . . . . .	Captain, Honourable Artillery Co. . .	Killed in action.
GROTE: ARTHUR LLOYD . . . . .	Captain, Royal Engineers . . . . .	Killed in action.
JACKSON: CHARLES ERNEST . . . . .	South African Force . . . . .	Killed in action.
SKIPWITH: FRANK PEYTON . . . . .	Major, Royal Scots Fusiliers . . . .	Killed in action.
SMITH: JAMES BUCHANAN PENTLAND . .	Lance-Corporal . . . . .	Died of wounds.
SUTHERLAND: GEORGE ANGUS . . . . .	Captain, Seaforth Highlanders . . .	Killed in action.
STUDENTS AND PROBATIONERS.		
AITKEN: JAMES HUNTER . . . . .	Lieut., Black Watch . . . . .	Killed in action.
BAGSHAW: ARTHUR SAMUEL . . . . .	2nd Lieut., 7th Wilts Regiment . . .	Killed in action.
BOOKER: GEORGE ARTHUR . . . . .	Sergt., Yorks and Lancs. Regiment .	Killed in action.
BOWES: ROY . . . . .	Captain . . . . .	Killed in action.
CHARD: CHARLES NORMAN . . . . .	Pte., 7th Yorks Regiment . . . . .	Killed in action.
CROTHWAITE: WILLIAM JAMES . . . .	— . . . . .	Killed in action.
CRUICKSHANK: DONALD EDWARD . . . .	Lieut., 10th Border Regiment . . . .	Killed in action.
DAVIES: WILLIAM EDWARD . . . . .	2nd Lieut., 5th Cheshire Regiment .	Killed in action.
DIXON: CYRIL BURTON . . . . .	Captain . . . . .	Died of wounds.
DOE: EDGAR HERBERT . . . . .	Private, Royal Berks Regiment . . .	Died of wounds.
FAUCETT: S. STUART . . . . .	Lieut., Liverpool Regiment . . . . .	Killed in action.
FERNYHOUGH: SAMUEL, JUN. . . . .	Lieut., 8th Manchester Regiment . .	Killed in action.
FULTON: ANDREW WILFRID . . . . .	— . . . . .	Killed in action.
GROVES: FRANCIS NEVILLE . . . . .	Lieut., 3rd Monmouthshire Regiment	Killed in action.
JONES: W. ORLANDO . . . . .	Captain, 10th South Wales Borderers	Killed in action.
LYNE: EDGAR . . . . .	— . . . . .	Killed in action.
MACPHERSON: ARCHIBALD AUSTIN . . .	Lieut., Royal Engineers . . . . .	Died of wounds.
MOSCROP: WILLIAM NOEL . . . . .	Captain and Adjutant, 5th Durham Light Infantry . . . . .	Missing, presumed killed.
NORRIS: LESLIE . . . . .	2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers . . . .	Killed in action.
PRESTON: WILLIAM CARTER . . . . .	— . . . . .	Killed in action.
RADCLIFFE: JAMES . . . . .	Capt., 7th Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment . . . . .	Killed in action.
SCOTT: NOEL EDMUND . . . . .	2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers . . . .	Died of wounds.
SMITH: HENRY . . . . .	Lieut., Royal Engineers . . . . .	Killed in action.
SPURWAY: GEORGE VYVYAN . . . . .	— . . . . .	Killed in action.
SUTHERLAND: GEORGE ANGUS . . . . .	Captain, Seaforth Highlanders . . .	Killed in action.
SWINTON: JAMES GIBSON . . . . .	Lieut., Black Watch . . . . .	Killed in action.
TAYLOR: MARTIN BARTLEY . . . . .	Private . . . . .	Killed in action.
VEY: ARTHUR E. . . . .	Corporal, Royal Engineers . . . . .	Died of wounds.

**Members'****Military and****Naval****Distinctions.**

The following is a further list of distinctions won by members:—

- D.S.O.*—Major Quentin Mangnall Bluhm [F.]; Major Percy Hubert Keys, M.C. [A.]
- D. S. Cross.*—Lt. E. Ford Duncanson, R.N.V.R. (*Licentiate*.)
- M.C.*—Capt. Herbert Carnelley, R.E. [A.]; Lt.-Col. Alner W. Hall [A.]; Capt. and Adj. Gilbert Burdette Howeroft [A.]; James MacLaren Ross [A.]; Frederick Charles Saxon [A.], also mentioned in Despatches; 2nd Lt. Theodore Gilbert Scott [A.]
- R.A.F. Cross.*—Lt. S. Wilkinson [F.]
- Croix de Guerre.*—Lt.-Col. William Beswick [A.], also mentioned in Despatches.
- Italian Croce di Guerra.*—Major L. E. S. G. de S. C. de Soissons [A.], also *Cavaliere Order of the Crown of Italy* and *Officer O.B.E.*
- Meritorious Service Medal.*—T. A. E. Lofthouse [A.]
- Mentioned in Despatches.*—Lt. Harold R. Atchison [A.]; Lt.-Col. S. W. Cranfield [F.]; H. L. Geeson [A.]; Sgt. J. T. Penfold [A.]; Lt. Robert W. Pite [A.]; Capt. Reginald V. T. Sewell [*Licentiate*.]
- Mentioned in Orders.*—Lt. George Collins [*Licentiate*.]
- O.B.E. (Military Division).*—Lt.-Col. Edward J. Bridges [F.]; Capt. J. J. Crowe [A.]; Capt. W. Howe Greene [F.]; Lt.-Col. G. Reavell [F.]; Major F. Coutts Webster [A.]

**The R.I.B.A. War Memorial.** A Tablet is to be placed in the Royal Institute building in memory of those of its Members, Licentiates and Students who laid down their lives in the service of their country during the war. A competition will take place for the design of the Tablet, and will be limited

to those who served in the Forces. The President has been invited by the Council to act as Assessor.

**War Service Candidates and the Examinations.** In connection with the election of candidates exempted from the Final Examination on account of war service, a Conference of representative interests was held at the R.I.B.A. under the Chairmanship of the President, as a result of which the unopposed election of the majority of such candidates will probably take place during the present year.

**The R.I.B.A. Prizes and Studentships.** After a lapse of five years the award of Prizes and Studentships has again been made. In spite of the recent demobilisation of many of the younger men, a good number of drawings were submitted and the standard of excellence was notably high. A selection of the premiated designs are now being exhibited by the Allied Societies.

**The President.** Shortly after the opening of the session, the state of the President's health made it necessary for him to retire for some two or three months from the active control of the Council's work. During this period the Presidential duties devolved upon the Vice-Presidents. The President's health and strength are now almost completely restored, and the Council have had the great satisfaction of being able to welcome him back to the Chair.

**The Unification of the Profession.** The most important task that faced the Council at the beginning of its year of office was that of giving effect to the widespread demand for the unification and better organisation of the profession. The matter was taken in hand at the first meeting, and a Charter Committee was appointed to deal with the scheme which had to be laid aside at the outbreak of the war. The Committee were rapidly convinced that wider and more far-reaching proposals than those of 1914 must be contemplated, and they submitted to the Council a recommendation in favour of the appointment of a new Committee representative of the whole profession which should be entrusted with the duty of preparing a broad scheme of unification and registration. The Charter Committee's report was unanimously approved by the Council and, on 22nd March, by a Special General Meeting of the Royal Institute. The various bodies concerned are now appointing their delegates, and the first meeting of the Unification Committee will take place towards the end of May. The large amount of evidence and information of a most instructive character collected by the "Future of Architecture Committee" will be handed over to the executive of the Unification Committee as soon as it is appointed by the latter body.

**Architectural Education.** The Council are watching with the keenest interest and sympathy the rapid developments that are taking place in the methods and machinery of architectural education. The "Recognised Schools" are full to overflowing after the lean years of the war, and the short courses which in the past qualified students for exemption from the Intermediate Examination are being supplemented by longer courses which, it may be, will justify the Board of Architectural Education in recommending the exemption of graduates from part, if not the whole, of the Final Examination. At the same time, the constitution of the Board is being considered with a view to strengthening its representative character and qualifying it more fully for its task of guiding and controlling the course of architectural education.

**The Royal Academy Ateliers.** The Council welcome the completion of the scheme by which the Royal Academy has undertaken the co-ordination of the work of the several Ateliers for advanced students. The Board of Architectural Education are considering the possibility of endowing one or more scholarships or prizes to encourage the work of the Ateliers. An extension of the scheme to the larger provincial cities should do much to raise the standard of design throughout the country, and it is hoped that the Councils of the larger Allied Societies will play their part in the development of the system.

**The Archibald Dawnay Bequest.** In connection with the foregoing paragraph members may be reminded that a bequest which will have a value of not less than £5,000 has been received by the Royal Institute under the will of the late Sir Archibald Dawnay. The income from this bequest is to be devoted to the furtherance of architectural education, and a scheme for the foundation of a scholarship or scholarships is now being developed.

**The Government and the Building Trade.** The Council have been deeply concerned throughout the session with the problem of the re-establishment of the building trade. In forming the Building Industries Consultative Board—a body representative of the four sections concerned: the architects, the surveyors, the contractors, and the operatives—they hoped to provide an instrument which would at the same time help the trade to deal effectively with its own internal problems and serve as a guide to the Government in its dealings with a great and complex industry. After an exhaustive examination of the position as it existed at the termination of the war, in which it received the most

valuable assistance from the Director of Building Materials Supply, Mr. G. E. Drower, and a frank interchange of views between the representatives of all sections, the Board came to the unanimous conclusion that the most vital need of the moment was the removal of all forms of Government control over the activities of the industry. This opinion was accordingly conveyed to the Government by a personal letter to the Prime Minister and by communications to the Departments concerned. In this action the Council were indebted to the Society of Architects for constant co-operation and support. The Council regret that up to the present their representations have failed to convince the responsible authorities, who now find themselves faced with difficulties in the National Housing Scheme which they are endeavouring to remove by placing still further restrictions on the industry generally. The Council have repeated their protest and they trust that the Allied Societies and the members generally will do their utmost to bring pressure to bear upon Members of Parliament and the Government with a view to the removal of such restrictions. The Building Industries Consultative Board further endeavoured to contribute to the improvement of conditions in the industry by issuing and circulating throughout the country a vigorous appeal to all concerned to redouble their efforts to improve production and to remove the existing causes of friction, delay, and uncertainty. (See JOURNAL, 6th December, 1919, p. 58.)

**National Housing Scheme.** No effort has been spared to secure the success of the National Housing Scheme. A specially reduced scale of payment for architects engaged in this work was negotiated with the Ministry of Health, and conferences are now taking place with the object of removing certain anomalies that have shown themselves in practical working. The Council have repeatedly urged upon the Ministry of Health the vital importance of entrusting town-planning and housing schemes only to those who possess full professional qualifications and of assisting demobilised architects by spreading the work as widely as possible over the whole profession. Difficulties and delays have arisen in many cases in which the Ministry have failed to carry out the policy recommended to them.

**The "Ideal Home" Exhibition.** At the request of the proprietors of the *Daily Mail* Professor Adshead, Mr. E. Guy Dawber, and Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood, on behalf of the R.I.B.A. Council, arranged a series of Conferences at this Exhibition. A large number of town planning schemes and house designs prepared under the National Housing Scheme were exhibited at Olympia, and afterwards for several weeks in the R.I.B.A. Galleries, where they were inspected by a large number of visitors.


**Control of Competitions.** The Competitions Committee have reported to the Council an unusually large number of competitions the conditions of which have been at variance with the regulations. As a result of the energetic and prompt action of the Committee, these conditions have in many cases been satisfactorily amended. In this work they have received constant assistance from the Allied Societies and the Society of Architects. The Council desire to call the attention of members, and particularly of those in the provinces, to the fact that the effective supervision of competitions in the interests of the profession and of the public depends largely on the promptitude with which individual members call the attention of the Committee to unsatisfactory competitions, and to the loyalty with which members generally support the action of the Committee and the Council in dealing with the promoters of such competitions. The Competitions Committee have drafted a set of model conditions for Housing Competitions which are about to be published.

**The Revision of the Conditions of Contract.** The National Federation of Building Trades Employers have prepared a new Building Code without consultation with the Royal Institute, and have given notice of their intention to withdraw from the Agreement arrived at in 1903. The R.I.B.A. Conditions of Contract Committee have reported to the Council the completion of their work in revising the R.I.B.A. Form, and the question of its immediate issue for the guidance of members is now before the Council.

- The Reform of the London Building Acts.** A strong Committee has been formed to consider and report upon the question of the reform of the London Building Acts. Proposals for an amending or consolidating Bill will be prepared, and a conference with the L.C.C. Building Acts Committee will be arranged as soon as possible.
- A Code of Professional Conduct and Practice.** The draft of a new Code of Professional Conduct and Practice has been circulated by the Council to the Standing Committees and the Councils of the Allied Societies. The very favourable comments received from these bodies are now being considered by a Committee of the Council and the amended draft will be adopted and published at an early date. It is intended to issue the new Code in pamphlet form together with the President's Inaugural Address and Address to Students and Mr. Paul Waterhouse's lecture on Architectural Education.
- The Revised Scale of Charges.** The Revised Scale of Charges was approved at a Special General Meeting on 12th May, 1919, and copies of it have been distributed to every Member and Licentiate. It has been officially adopted by the Society of Architects, who have received permission to reprint it for issue to their own members.
- The President of the Royal Academy.** The President and Council had the pleasure of presenting a congratulatory address to Sir Aston Webb, Past-President, on the occasion of his election as President of the Royal Academy. Sir Aston is the first architect who has ever occupied this position.
- Major Harry Barnes, M.P.** The Council are under special obligations to Major Harry Barnes, M.P., for his services in all matters concerning Parliament and the public departments. Although his duties in the House of Commons made it impossible for him to attend many of the Council meetings, his work was of the greatest possible value to the Royal Institute.
- Peace Day Celebration.** On the conclusion of peace the R.I.B.A. premises were decorated under the supervision of Professor Beresford Pite [F.]. It is the intention of the Council to arrange a Garden Party at the Zoological Gardens on "Peace Day," 28th June, at which the Royal Institute will extend a welcome to its returned Service Members and Students.
- Ratification of Peace Treaty.** On the occasion of the ratification of the Treaty of Peace with Germany the Council presented a loyal address to His Majesty the King, Patron of the Royal Institute, and telegrams of congratulation were exchanged between the Royal Institute and the kindred and allied societies in France, the United States, and the Dominions.
- The Zeebrugge Memorial Competition.** At the request of the Anglo-Belgian Union, the R.I.B.A. Galleries were lent for the exhibition of models and drawings submitted in the Zeebrugge Memorial Competition. The Exhibition was opened by the Chairman of the Union, Mr. Herbert Samuel, and attracted a large attendance of visitors for several weeks.
- The Architects and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union.** The Council have given their support to the work of this Union, and Mr. Walter Cave, Vice-President, is acting as Chairman of the Welfare Committee. Proposals with regard to Salaries and Insurance have been submitted to the Council.
- The Architectural Press.** The Council have to thank the technical press for the assistance they have so unfailingly given to the work of the Royal Institute by opening their columns to the various matters of professional interest which have been submitted to them.
- The R.I.B.A. Journal and Kalendar.** The fortnightly publication of the JOURNAL was resumed at the opening of the Session, and the KALENDAR was reissued after an interval of several years. Members are requested to assist in detecting and correcting inaccuracies which have crept into the volume as a result of the war years.
- The Secretary.** The Secretary was demobilised from the Army in February, and the leave of absence granted by the Council enabled him to undergo treatment which completely restored his health, and he was able to resume his duties at the beginning of July.

**The R.I.B.A. Finances.** The report of the Hon. Auditors calls attention to the success with which the finances of the Royal Institute have withstood the strain of the war years. Only the exercise of the most rigid economy, coupled with the restriction of activities to the barest minimum, has enabled this result to be attained. Now, however, it is necessary to resume the full exercise of normal activities and to face the developments called for by a progressive policy, and it is obvious that in view of the general rise in prices an income at the pre-war level cannot possibly be adequate to meet the cost of post-war activities. On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Council have accordingly summoned a Special General Meeting to sanction the increase of subscriptions and fees by an amount which should provide a sufficient income in future.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

 The Board have held eight meetings since the issue of the last Report.

*Committees.*—The following Committees have met from time to time and reported on the matters referred to them :—Examinations Committee ; Testimonies of Study Committee ; Prizes and Studentships Committee, and Baker Scholarship Committee.

*Problems in Design.*—During the year 131 Problems have been received and adjudicated on, and of these 91 have been approved. The proportion of approved designs compares favourably with previous years. A satisfactory increase in the number of the Problems received may be recorded.

*The Examinations.*—The Board have conducted the Intermediate, Final and Special Examinations as usual, and the results as reported to the Council have been published.

*Special War Examinations and Exemptions.*—The Special War Examination has been held on three occasions, at which 121 candidates presented themselves, of whom 106 passed. Of the Students who have availed themselves of the Special War Exemption from the Final Examination, 91 have been elected Associates. Arrangements have been made with the Allied Societies in Australia and Canada for conducting the Examination of Overseas Candidates for the Final and Special War Examinations.

*Constitution of the Board.*—The Board, at the request of the Council, have under consideration the whole question of the future constitution of the Board, and it is anticipated that a Report will be laid before the Council at an early date.

*Future of the Final Examination.*—The question of according to students of recognised schools partial exemption from the Final Examination of the R.I.B.A. is also receiving earnest attention, and will be reported on in relation to the previous subject.

## REPORT OF THE ART STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Walter Cave was elected Chairman and Mr. W. Arthur Webb and Mr. J. B. Fulton Hon. Secretaries.

The following important subjects were discussed :—

*Whitgift Hospital, Croydon.*—It is satisfactory to note that the Croydon Corporation has decided not to proceed with the demolition. Notwithstanding this, one of our members was requested to keep a watchful eye on the building and keep the Committee informed on the matter.

*Proposed War Memorial at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.*—The attention of the Committee was drawn to the proposed alterations. After careful investigation and consultation with the architect employed, the Committee feel quite safe in leaving the proposals in his hands.

*Argyll House, Chelsea.*—The Chairman undertook to see the new tenants and informed the Com-



mittee that only the outbuilding was to be removed for the purpose of providing servants' quarters, and the main building to be left as at present.

*City Churches Commission.*—This Commission has been sitting for some time under the presidency of Lord Phillimore and the Art Committee have made every endeavour to be represented. As far as can be ascertained the Commission is a private one and called together by the Bishop of London, more particularly as to the working of the parishes. In the event of a church being threatened, the Committee would take strong action with other Societies who interest themselves in these matters.

*Treaty House, Uxbridge.*—It is regretted that the old panelling from the Treaty House, Uxbridge, had been disposed of before the Committee could take any action.

The height of buildings in London came up for discussion.

Suggestions were made to the Sessional Papers Committee.

The draft document on professional conduct and practice was laid on the table.

### REPORT OF THE LITERATURE STANDING COMMITTEE.

Seven meetings of the Committee have been held since the issue of the last Report. The following officers were elected to serve during the Session :—Chairman, Mr. H. H. Statham ; Vice-Chairman, Mr. C. Harrison Townsend ; Hon. Secretaries, Mr. Louis Ambler and Mr. H. G. Ibberson.

Pressure on the shelving accommodation has recently become a serious difficulty and has greatly interfered with the smooth working of the Library. During the past session the space has been wholly inadequate and it has not always been possible to find positions for books which have been added to the Library. The Committee have therefore submitted a report to the Council suggesting that two rooms on the upper floor should be placed at the disposal of the Library and provided with book shelves to relieve the present congestion.

The Committee have gratefully to acknowledge a presentation by Mr. E. Swinfen Harris [F.] of forty-two sheets of drawings by the late Mr. William Butterfield, as well as a gift from Messrs. H. M. and W. Grellier, of various drawings by their father, the late Mr. William Grellier, including designs for the Royal Exchange, London, the Palatine Club, Liverpool, and other drawings which obtained the Royal Academy Gold Medal. The Committee have also to acknowledge the indebtedness of the Library to Mr. St. Clair Baddeley for a collection of the original drawings prepared for Rubens's book, *Palazzi di Genova*, first published in 1622.

The Committee have, with great regret, to record the death of Mr. J. D. Crace, Hon. Associate. For many years Mr. Crace served as a co-opted member of the Committee and always took an active share in the work. In the previous session he had presented a valuable collection of his own drawings, which were exhibited, prior to his death, in the Galleries of the Institute.

At the request of the Archæological Joint-Committee, formed to collect records of antiquities in the various war areas in the near East, the Librarian, at the request of the Council, has undertaken temporarily, for the purpose of reference, the charge of the drawings and photographs so far collected.

The following is the Librarian's Report to the Committee :—

During the twelve months ending 31st March of the present year 117 volumes and 9 pamphlets have been added to the Library, exclusive of periodicals, reports and transactions of Societies, and parts of works issued in serial form. The drawings presented numbered 151 sheets, prints 24 sheets.

The number of works presented was 38 volumes and 9 pamphlets.

Works purchased numbered 79 volumes, of which 24 volumes were added to the Loan Library.

The attendance of readers in the Reference Library numbered 5,194.

The number of books issued on Loan was 2,331.

The number of tickets issued for admission to the Library other than members of the Institute or to Students and Probationers was 118.

The number of books issued through the post was 247.

During the last six months the ordinary hours of the Library, which were shortened during the war, have been resumed. The Library is therefore now open from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. daily (Saturdays 5 p.m.).

Donations of books, pamphlets, or drawings have been received from Mr. John Slater, M. Charles Girault, Mr. George Jeffery, Mr. Arthur T. Bolton, Mr. H. C. Corlette, Mr. Charles H. Whitaker, Mr. W. St. Clair Baddeley, Mr. Arthur Ashbridge, Mr. Benjamin Ingelow, Mr. K. A. C. Creswell, Mr. M. S. Briggs, Signor Giacomo Boni, Mr. Gordon Allen, The American Institute of Architects, Mr. E. Swinfen Harris, Mr. R. Narasimhachar, Mr. S. Hurst Seager, M. Jules Brunfaut, the Government of India, the Government of Cyprus, Messrs. E. & F. N. Spon, Ltd., Messrs. Crosby Lockwood & Son, Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., The Technical Journals, Ltd.

Among the books purchased or presented during the year may be mentioned :—Girault's *Notes sur la Vie et les Oeuvres de Honoré Daumet*, Rivoira's *Moslem Architecture*, Walcot's *Architectural Water Colours and Etchings*, Lowell's *More Small Italian Villas and Farmhouses*, De l'Hôpital's *Westminster Cathedral and its Architect*, Hornsby & Schmidt's *Modern Hospital*, Flickinger's *The Greek Theatre, etc.*, Ongania's *Calli e Canali in Venezia*, Jekyll's *Garden Ornament*, Boys's *Picturesque Architecture in Paris*, Howard and Crossley's *English Church Woodwork*, Gould's *History of Freemasonry*, Cescinsky's *English Furniture of the Eighteenth Century*, Roe's *History of Oak Furniture*, Lishman's *New High Court, Allahabad*, Birch's *History of Margam Abbey*, American Institute of Architects' *Structural Service Book, Vol. 1*, Souster's *Design of Factory and Industrial Buildings*, Ramsey's *Small Houses of the late Georgian Period*, Hering's *Concrete and Stucco Houses, etc.*, Clarke's *The Housing Problem, etc.*, Weaver's *Village Halls and Clubs*, Rideal's *Water Supplies, their purification filtration, etc.*, Beck's *Structural Steelwork*, Adams & Matthews's *Reinforced Concrete Construction*, Lawrence's *Economic Farm Buildings*.

## REPORT OF THE PRACTICE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Committee have held 9 meetings since the publication of the last annual report.

The officers of the Committee are :—Chairman, Mr. Alfred W. S. Cross ; Vice-Chairman, Mr. John Slater ; Hon. Secretaries, Mr. Horace Cubitt and Mr. K. Gammell.

*Matters relating to Housing.*—A large proportion of the time of the Committee has been spent in dealing with housing questions. The Committee have reported to the Council that in their opinion the recent issue by the Ministry of Health of complete plans, specifications and quantities for cottages is highly undesirable, and that a strong protest against such action should be made by the Council. From information received from architects engaged in housing work in rural districts it has appeared to the Committee that housing work on widely scattered sites in rural districts should be considered as special work involving a special adjustment of the scale of housing fees agreed with the Ministry of Health, in accordance with the clause of such scale which provides for special arrangements being made in exceptional circumstances. The Committee have reported to the Council to this effect, with a view to the matter being discussed with the Ministry. The Committee have had under consideration one or two cases where fees less than those of the agreed housing scale have been accepted by members and have recommended the Council to consider what form of action should be taken in such cases. The Committee have in several cases advised members as to questions arising under the agreed scale.

*Form of Contract.*—As a result of an enquiry from a member as to whether a contractor was entitled to charge an amount for profit on an allowed increased cost of materials and labour, the Committee have recommended the Council to ask the Conditions of Contract Committee to consider the formulation of some standard of practice for adoption by the profession. At the present time there appears to be considerable diversity of practice in regard to this matter.

The Committee have also recommended the Council to ask the Conditions of Contract Committee to give their most earnest attention to the situation arising from the recent withdrawal of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers from the agreed Form of Contract.

*Publication of Plans by the "Ideal Home."*—The attention of the Committee having been called from more than one source to the publication of one-eighth scale plans, for sale to the public, by a new journal entitled the "Ideal Home," and that some of the plans were stated to be from the designs of a member of the Institute, the Committee asked for an explanation from the member in question. The explanation, which was considered satisfactory by the Committee, was to the effect that the publication of the plans in the manner adopted by the "Ideal Home" was at variance with the verbal arrangements made with the editor by the member, and was entirely contrary to the member's wishes, and that he had, therefore, refused to supply any further plans.

*Pay of Officers on Staff for R.E. Services.*—The Committee have recommended the Council to endeavour to arrange combined representations to the War Office on the part of the Institute, the Surveyors' Institution, and the Institution of Civil Engineers, with a view to obtaining such increases in the scale of pay for technical officers on the Staff for R.E. Services as shall bring the pay approximately into accordance with the pay for other branches of the technical services, such as the medical service.

*Letters from Members Regarding Fees.*—The Committee have dealt with several cases in which members have asked advice as to the fees properly chargeable for work done, and also certain enquiries from officials of local authorities as to the fees payable by such authorities to architects employed by them.

*Law of Easements of Support.*—As the suggested amendment of the law on this subject was intended to follow the proposed amendment of the Law on Light and Air, which has made little progress during the past twelve months, the matter has, for the moment, been left in abeyance.

*Higher Buildings for London.*—The Committee have considered a reference from the Council on this question, and have appointed two representatives to act with representatives of the Art Committee and the Science Committee in preparing a combined report for submission to the Council.

*Professional Conduct.*—The Committee have considered the case of a Licentiate who, previously an assistant, had, on commencing practice on his own account, issued a circular and sent copies to, among others, certain clients of his former principal. The Committee have reported to the Council recommending that the architect in question be expelled from the Institute.

*Professional Etiquette.*—Several questions involving professional etiquette have been considered by the Committee; in dealing with such cases it is the invariable practice of the Committee to obtain particulars from both parties to a dispute, and not to proceed on *ex parte* statements only.

*Premiums in Architectural Competitions.*—The committee being of opinion that premiums in Architectural competitions are often insufficient in amount, and that the present is a suitable time to remedy this state of affairs, have formulated for consideration of the Competitions Committee and of the Council a draft scale for premiums varying in accordance with the estimated cost of the proposed building. The Committee trust that in due course some such scale may be embodied in the Institute's Regulations for Architectural Competitions.

## REPORT OF THE SCIENCE STANDING COMMITTEE.

Since the date of the last annual report of the Science Standing Committee the number of meetings held has been eight, including a special meeting called to consider the preparation of the memorial

to the Privy Council by the Council of the Institute. The average attendance at each meeting was nine

The officers were elected as follows: Alan E. Munby, M.A., Chairman; A. O. Collard, Vice-Chairman; Percival M. Fraser, J. Ernest Franck, Hon. Secretaries.

*Roof of Westminster Hall.*—Through the courtesy of Sir Frank Baines, K.B.E., M.V.O., Principal Architect H.M. Office of Works, the Committee made a second visit of inspection to view the work of reparation to the roof of Westminster Hall, on the 12th June 1919. A full report of such visit was made by Mr. A. O. Collard and is given in the JOURNAL for July 1919.

*Research Work.*—The Committee suggested the reappointment of the Research Committee. This not being considered expedient, the Science Committee have concerned themselves with the whole matter of research on building materials. The data necessary for a detailed report was prepared with a view to whatever action the Committee might decide upon. Detailed notes were furnished by various members on the following matters: Acoustics; non-ferrous metals and glass, paints, pavings; plasters, limes and cements; roofing, tiles and bricks, steel and iron, stones; timber.

A letter was written to the Industrial Research Department suggesting the urgent necessity of research on comprehensive lines into materials of building construction. Based upon the data prepared by the Committee a Memorandum was prepared, and after approval by the Council was communicated to the Privy Council. This Memorial set forth the facts upon which the Committee based their views that such research was of urgent national importance, and furnished typical cases where great loss to the community had accrued from insufficient knowledge or control of the sources and composition of materials. The Privy Council informed the Institute that the Memorandum has been found of considerable interest and is having its earnest consideration. The Committee have put forward some of these matters as subjects suitable for the consideration of the Sessional Papers Committee.

*Fuel Economy.*—At the instigation of the President the Committee have investigated, experimented and carried out tests with a view to determining if any modification of existing grates was possible to secure an appreciable economy in fuel. The use of various types of fuel for domestic purposes was also considered. The Committee were authoritatively informed that the latter subject was being dealt with in a most detailed and comprehensive manner elsewhere, and therefore concentrated its attention upon improvements in existing grates. An apparatus was designed to burn household or hard coal and to stand in front of an open grate. This apparatus was tested by an expert, but his report did not give any indication that economy was to be secured by the arrangement designed. The various types of household grates of the early Victorian period were reviewed and the necessary data were furnished to the President of the Institute to enable a letter to be published in the Press for the instruction of the public as to the best means of adapting such grates to obtain economy in fuel consumption.

*Steel Frame Conference Report.*—This important report emanated from a Conference called to consider the whole matter of the L.C.C. Building Regulations dealing with steel-frame buildings. A report was prepared by a joint Committee, and was at the request of the Council considered and reported upon by the Science Committee, who recommended to the Council its publication after the views of the London County Council had been ascertained.

*Building Stones.*—The Committee are about to make a further inspection of the building stones placed on the roof of the Geological Museum in 1910 for weathering tests, and from time to time reported upon. The Committee hope that a public statement on these tests may be made by the Geological Survey and the Institute at an early date.

*Pisé and Allied Walling.*—The question of using unbaked clay, pisé and other similar types of walling was referred to the Committee for report. The matter has been investigated throughout the Session during which period a good deal of information which the Committee have had under considera-

tion has become public. Information from private sources has also been investigated, and the Allied Societies have been circularised. Any information thus obtained will be collated with a view to publication in the JOURNAL.

*Tile Testing.*—The Committee have had under further consideration defects in roofing tiles upon which information was collected in previous Sessions. The Committee have concluded that the preparation of microscopic sections of such tiles is essential, and having in view the abnormal conditions still obtaining it was thought fit to defer any attempt to obtain and report on such sections until the brick fields are again producing on more normal lines the materials under discussion.

*Engineering Standards Committee.*—At the request of the Council to suggest a representative to serve on the Engineering Standards Committee in the place of Mr. Edwin T. Hall, the retiring member, the Committee put forward the name of Mr. C. Stanley Peach.

*Defects in Timber.*—The Committee are endeavouring in connection with the Entomological Department of the Natural History Museum to obtain information which shall lead to more extensive knowledge of defects in timber due to boring insects. Architects and other users of timber have been invited through the JOURNAL to send specimens of such defective wood to the Committee, and it is hoped that those who read this report will assist in this important work.

*Height of London Buildings.*—At the request of the Council the Committee appointed representatives to serve upon the Joint Committee upon the Height of London Buildings, the said representatives being instructed in the considered views of the Committee on the matter.

*Code of Professional Conduct.*—The Committee have given earnest consideration to a proposed Code of Professional Conduct, and their report has been forwarded to the Council.

*Conference on Technical Fittings.*—The Committee have drawn the attention of the Council of the Chemical Society to the desirability of investigating the possibility of reducing the cost of laboratory fittings, and has received a very cordial reply of thanks for drawing attention to the matter, which has been referred to the Industrial Research Department. It is understood that a conference on the subject is likely to result.

*Books of Scientific Interest.*—At various meetings, and at the request of the Literature Committee, books of scientific interest have been considered and recommended for purchase by the Institute.

The Committee wish to take the opportunity of thanking members of the profession who have assisted its deliberations by correspondence and to point out that it is anxious to receive enquiries and information on matters of scientific interest.

#### REPORT OF THE ARCHITECTS' WAR COMMITTEE.

The work of the War Committee in most of its departments has ceased. The Selection Committee was discharged on the 1st August, and the Reorganisation and Professional Employment Committee on 7th April, 1920, leaving the Demobilisation Committee only to be discharged at an early date.

The schemes of work organised by the Civic Survey Joint Committee at the beginning of and during the War, in London, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Exeter, were brought to a conclusion on the 8th October, 1919. During the War the scheme was useful in providing employment for a large number of architects, as well as inaugurating work of great public utility. In addition to the work of the Surveys, considerable help was afforded to the Air Board in preparing diagrams during a critical period when the rapid production of aircraft became a matter of first importance. It is hoped that the pioneer work performed by the Surveys will not be lost, but utilised later by Government Departments and Public Authorities as a basis for future schemes of Town Planning. During the present year it is proposed, therefore, to hold an exhibition of the diagrams in the galleries of the Institute for the purpose of pro-

paganda, and with a view to making the programme on which the Surveys were developed more generally known. It is satisfactory to report that during the progress of the work the Professional Employment Committee were able to find more remunerative positions for a large majority of those who were temporarily employed, and that most of the workers are again in active practice. The Committee are greatly indebted to the Government Committee on the Prevention and Relief of Distress, without whose practical and sympathetic support the Surveys could not have been undertaken.

A Committee entitled the Architects' War Relief Committee has been set up to administer a fund that was placed at the disposal of the War Committee from the National Relief Fund. The intention is to continue to assist architects who have suffered as the result of the War, and who, through age or infirmity or other cause, are unable to recover their position. Assistance has already been given in several cases.

The Demobilisation Committee which was set up in December, 1918, has continued its work. The release from the army of upwards of 800 "pivotal" men had been secured by February, 1919, and since that time many demobilised men have received help and advice in the matter of re-establishing themselves. A circular was issued to the Architects serving with the Forces explaining the general position of affairs in the profession and the opportunities for employment. At the request of the Committee the Architectural Association took over the Employment Bureau and it has been able to find employment for about 250 men. The cost of postage, printing, clerical work, &c., has been considerable, and there is a deficit of £50 to be met.

#### REPORT OF THE HON. AUDITORS FOR 1919.

We have carefully examined the books and checked the various items therein with the accounts and vouchers for 1919, together with share certificates held by the Institute and list of Share Certificates deposited at the Bank, all of which were found to be in order and to agree with the balance-sheet prepared by the Accountants.

It will be noted with satisfaction that the overdraft of £825 1s. on the 31st December 1918 has disappeared, and in place of this there is now a credit balance of £1,298 3s. 10d.

It should be pointed out that this result has been obtained through exercising the strictest economy during the year, with the consequent restriction of the activities of the Institute.

The amount received in subscriptions and arrears considerably exceeds that of the previous year. We note that the valuation placed on the premises, namely £35,622 7s. 3d., in the year 1914 still stands, and we are of the opinion that a revaluation should be made, in order that the correct figure may appear in the next balance-sheet.

The work of the Institute has been carried out in a very efficient manner, and the staff is to be commended for the way in which they have carried out their duties.

A. H. GOSLETT [F.].

C. E. HUTCHINSON [A.].

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#### FINANCES.

The Accounts of Ordinary and Trust Funds for 1919, prepared by Messrs. Saffery, Sons & Co., Chartered Accountants, and audited by Messrs. A. H. Goslett and C. E. Hutchinson, Hon. Auditors, here follow :—

Income and Expenditure Account of Ordinary Funds for the Year ended 31st December, 1919.

EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.		
TO ORDINARY EXPENDITURE—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	BY ORDINARY INCOME—	£ s. d.
Rent .....	69 5 0		Subscriptions.	
Rates and Taxes .....	977 19 11		Fellows .....	2942 18 0
Interest on Mortgage .....	160 0 0		Ditto Arrears .....	374 18 4
		1207 4 11	Associates .....	2818 3 6
Gas and Electric Lighting .....		131 16 10	Ditto Arrears .....	422 17 0
Fuel .....		85 19 6	Hon. Associates .....	60 18 0
Salaries .....		3841 6 6	Ditto Arrears .....	4 4 0
General Printing, Stationery, Stamps and			Licentiates .....	1400 4 6
Petty Expenses .....		1126 10 10	Ditto Arrears .....	368 12 6
General Meetings and Exhibitions .....		86 19 11	Reinstated Members .....	52 10 0
House-keeping and Wages .....		402 15 5		8445 5 10
Advertisements .....		19 17 6	JOURNAL and KALENDAR—	
Examination Expenses .....		130 17 4	Advertisements .....	327 13 7
General Repairs .....		261 1 5	Sales of Journal and other Publications ..	550 16 5
Fire Insurance .....		47 18 10		878 10 0
Grant to Architects' Benevolent Society ..	100 0 0		Cottage Design Albums .....	540 6 4
Grant to Architectural Association .....	100 0 0		Examination Fees—	
Grant to Conjoint Board of Scientific			Preliminary .....	262 10 0
Societies .....	20 0 0		Intermediate .....	151 4 0
Grant to Architects' Demobilization Com-			Special Final and War Exemption .....	926 13 0
mittee .....	25 0 0		Licentiates .....	94 10 0
Grant to Architects' Joint Committee .....	2 2 0			1434 17 0
		247 2 0	Use of Rooms—	
Library .....		72 9 11	R.I.B.A. Tenants and others .....	80 0 0
JOURNAL—			Galleries .....	557 8 0
Reporting .....	34 3 6		Grissell Legacy—	
Printing and Binding .....	1233 7 2		Interest on War Loan .....	18 16 6
Illustrations .....	36 13 0		Interest on Deposit .....	23 19 3
Postage and Carriage .....	412 16 6			
		1717 0 2		
Cottage Design Albums .....		452 5 0		
Contributions to Allied Societies† .....		413 4 6		
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES—				
Legal and Accountants .....	99 5 6			
Presidents of Allied Societies .....	92 14 9			
Telephone .....	37 11 3			
Honorarium to Editor and Asst. Librarian	125 0 0			
Building Industries Consultative Board				
and Conference .....	112 3 3			
Addresses to H.M. the King, Sir Aston				
Webb, and Mr. Ernest Newton .....	17 8 6			
Civic Survey .....	14 3 6			
Scale of Charges, Conference, etc. ....	46 1 0			
Peace Decorations .....	184 13 3			
Architects' War Committee .....	5 18 0			
Sundries .....	99 6 5			
		834 5 5		
Reserve for fine payable at renewal of				
Lease .....		7 0 0		
Interest on Overdraft .....		1 7 5		
Balance of Income over Expenditure for				
year carried to and included in Balance				
Sheet Surplus .....		891 19 6		
		£11,979 2 11		£11,979 2 11

† By-law 82 provides that "The Royal Institute shall, in each year, contribute to any Non-Metropolitan Allied Society not more than one-fourth of the annual subscription paid to the Royal Institute by each member thereof who is also a member of such Society, in respect of and for his subscription thereto; but in no event shall such contribution apply in the case of any one member to more than one Allied Society."

SAFFERY, SONS & Co.,  
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the vouchers and found correct. 14th April 1920. { A. H. GOSLETT [F.] } Hon. Auditors.  
C. E. HUTCHINSON [A.]

[illegible]

**NOTE :—**

A Fine of £7 per annum is payable every 14 years in respect of the premises under a Lease from the Corporation of the City of London. Notice of renewal must be given at Michaelmas, 1921, and the fine of £98 paid.

SAFFERY, SONS & Co.,  
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the vouchers and found to be correct. 14th April 1920. { A. H. GOSLETT [F]  
C. E. HUTCHINSON [A.] } Hon. Auditors.





Balance Sheet of Trust Funds, 31st December, 1919.

Dr.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	
<b>TO ASHPITEL PRIZE FUND:—</b>					By Government and other Securities, being total of Trust Funds invested at this date, at valuation. Also of War Savings Certificates at cost .....				
Capital—£305 1s. 8d. New South Wales 4 per Cent. Debentures (1922): Value at 31st December, 1919.....	283	14	6					139	19 11
<b>Revenue Investments—</b>								2	13 "
£76 8s. 11d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ....	64	4	3						
£20 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	18	6	0						
£20 4 per Cent. Funding Loan .....	15	4	0						
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ....	9	16	0						
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ....	1	3	10						
					392	8	7		
<b>TO ANDERSON AND WEBB FUND (Board of Architectural Education):—</b>					By Cash at Bank .....				
Capital—£594 18s. 4d. New South Wales 4 per Cent. Debentures (1922): Value at 31st December, 1919 .....	553	5	5						
£58 6s. New South Wales 4 per Cent. Inscribed Stock (1942) .....	43	2	10						
<b>Revenue Investments—</b>									
£56 6s. 4d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ....	47	6	1						
£25 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	22	17	6						
£30 4 per Cent. Funding Loan .....	22	16	0						
£10 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ....	9	16	0						
£25 4 per Cent. National War Bonds ....	24	12	6						
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ....	0	17	7						
					724	13	11		
<b>TO ARTHUR CATES LEGACY FUND:—</b>					Cash on Deposit (Jarvis Studentship) ....				
Capital—£1160 N.-E. Railway 4 per Cent. Preference Stock: Value at 31st December, 1919.....	765	12	0						
<b>Revenue Investments—</b>									
£137 18s. 7d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ....	115	17	2						
£50 4s. 11d. 5 per Cent. War Loan ....	45	19	6						
£100 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ..	98	0	0						
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ....	1	19	4						
					1027	8	0		
<b>TO DONALDSON TESTIMONIAL FUND:—</b>									
Capital—£72 L. & N.-W. Railway 4 per Cent. Consolidated Preference Stock: Value at 31st December, 1919 .....	48	19	2						
<b>Revenue Investments—</b>									
£12 4s. 7d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ....	10	5	5						
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ....	1	13	4						
					60	17	11		
<b>TO DONATION FUND:—</b>									
<b>Revenue Investments—</b>									
£76 8s. 11d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ....	64	4	3						
£40 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	36	12	0						
400 War Savings Certificates .....	310	0	0						
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ....	13	6	1						
					424	2	4		
<b>TO GODWIN BURSARY FUND:—</b>									
Capital—£1030 Caledonian Railway 4 per Cent. Debenture Stock: Value at 31st December, 1919 .....	700	8	0						
<b>Revenue Investments—</b>									
£25 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	22	17	6						
50 War Savings Certificates .....	38	15	0						
£40 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ....	39	4	0						
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ....	24	8	1						
					825	12	7		
<b>TO GRISELL LEGACY FUND:—</b>									
Capital—£20 0s. 8d. "B" Annuity Great Indian Peninsula Railway: Value at 31st December, 1919 .....	290	9	8						
<b>Revenue Investments—</b>									
£20 7s. 8d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ....	17	2	5						
£20 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	18	6	0						

BALANCE SHEET OF TRUST FUNDS—*continued.*

Dr.		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	Cr.
	Brought forward ..	£6,345	10	6		Brought forward ..	£9,814	7	6	
TO PUGIN MEMORIAL FUND:—										
Capital—£1070 L. & N.-W. Railway 4 per Cent. Consolidated Preference Stock: Value at 31st December, 1919 .....	727	12	0							
Revenue Investments—										
£15 9s. 9d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan .....	13	0	2							
£47 16s. 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	43	14	9							
£40 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ..	39	4	0							
£50 4 per Cent. Funding Loan ..	38	0	0							
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ..	3	17	5							
					865	8	4			
TO SAXON SNELL BEQUEST:—										
Capital—£698 4s. New Zealand 3½ per Cent. Stock: Value at 31st December, 1919 ..	481	15	2							
Revenue Investments—										
£204 10s. 4d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ..	171	15	11							
£56 14s. 4d. 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	51	17	11							
£40 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ..	39	4	0							
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ..	5	5	8							
					749	18	8			
TO TITE LEGACY FUND:—										
Capital—£1150 2½ per Cent. Consols: Value at 31st December, 1919 .....	586	10	0							
Revenue Investments—										
£51 12s. 6d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan .....	43	7	3							
£61 4s. 6d. 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	56	0	5							
£30 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ..	29	8	0							
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ..	7	1	6							
					722	7	2			
TO WIMPERIS BEQUEST:—										
Capital—£1024 18s. 8d. Metropolitan Water Board 3 per Cent. "B" Stock: Value at 31st December, 1919 .....	568	16	9							
Revenue Investments—										
£202 3s. 5d. 4½ per Cent. War Loan ..	169	16	6							
£71 14s. 4d. 5 per Cent. War Loan .....	65	12	5							
£40 5 per Cent. National War Bonds ..	39	4	0							
Balance at credit of Revenue Account ..	6	12	6							
					850	2	2			
TO HENRY JARVIS STUDENTSHIP:—										
Balance in hand .....					81	0	8			
					£9,814	7	6			
									£9,814	7 6

SAFFERY, SONS & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the vouchers and found to be correct. 14th April 1920. A. H. GOSLETT [F.] Hon. Auditors.  
C. E. HUTCHINSON [A.]

The Council submit a rough Estimate of Income and Expenditure of Ordinary Funds for the year ending 31st December, 1920, exclusive of Entrance Fees:—

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.			ORDINARY INCOME.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Rent, Rates and Taxes, etc. ....	1260	0 0	Subscriptions and Arrears .....	9400	0 0
Gas and Electric Lighting .....	200	0 0	Sale of Publications .....	850	0 0
Fuel .....	100	0 0	Advertisements .....	500	0 0
Salaries .....	4300	0 0	Examination Fees .....	1400	0 0
..... and Petty Expenses ..	2250	0 0	Use of Rooms .....	80	0 0
.....	250	0 0	Dividend on Grissell Legacy .....	20	0 0
.....	425	0 0	Estimated Deficit .....	3050	0 0
.....	70	0 0			
Examination Expenses .....	420	0 0			
General Repairs .....	400	0 0			
Fire Insurance .....	55	0 0			
Medals and Prizes .....	250	0 0			
Grants .....	400	0 0			
Library .....	150	0 0			
The JOURNAL .....	2300	0 0			
The KALENDAR .....	500	0 0			
Contributions to Allied Societies ..	600	0 0			
Presidents of Allied Societies .....	120	0 0			
Legal and Accountants .....	150	0 0			
Miscellaneous, including the following:—	£	s. d.			
President's Portrait .....	165	0 0			
R.I.B.A. War Memorial .....	300	0 0			
Annual Dinner .....	120	0 0			
R.I.B.A. Dinner Guests .....	70	0 0			
Unification Committee .....	200	0 0			
War Committee .....	50	0 0			
	1100	0 0			
	£15,300	0 0		£15,300	0 0

## REVIEWS.

## PRESCRIPTIONS FOR THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL

*Colour Schemes for the Home and Model Interiors.* By Henry W. Frohne, editor of "Good Furniture Magazine," and Alice F. and Bettina Jackson, Interior Decorators. 40. 1919. 21s. net. [J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London.]

An explanatory preface explains the purpose of the volume, "to provide the home maker with practical guidance in selecting and arranging the furnishings in the home. Good taste and the ability to apply it in the home environment depend—of course—upon a thorough appreciation of the principles of good design and of colour harmony. No attempt has been made to expound these principles academically. The authors have contented themselves with a mere statement of the more fundamental of these, and have chosen to apply them in a series of colour schemes and suggestive interiors they have specially designed and constructed for the purpose. The furnishings that appear in the interiors on the following pages, and the fabrics that are shown in various colour harmonies, have been selected from current patterns in the American market so that the home maker may apply directly to personal needs the suggestions the pictures are intended to offer." Elsewhere the authors say: "In furnishing her house every woman wishes to make it as attractive and home-like as possible. It is the object of this booklet to suggest to the home-maker colour schemes for her rooms, to assist her in the application of these schemes, and to make it clear to her that in beautifying her home the matter of harmony is of greatest importance and does not necessarily entail undue expense." Then follow photographs (in monochrome) of interiors of rooms, with samples, in colour, of the materials used in constructing the different colour schemes.

I suppose there are some people to whom such prescriptions are helpful: but, speaking generally, one would so much rather see the housewife expressing her own individuality undisturbed by talk about "design," "styles," "good taste" and such like oracular bugbears. Morris's maxim, "Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful," covers the whole ground. In the category of "beautiful" I would include such possessions as one really cares for, by virtue of association, or in pious memory, and these—in the case of most of us—will be but few.

But this pernicious talk of "styles" is a piece of disastrous cowardice: sheltering the utterer behind the name of "Sheraton" or "Jacobean" from the pain of having an opinion, and the shame of exposing its absence: it leads to imitative work ("faithful reproduction" the authors call it) when the craftsman is intent on copying the outward characteristics of his model, without appreciating or accepting the constructive spirit underlying it—and in some cases to forgeries. You can hardly obstruct a craftsman more than by pinning him down to the dexterous imitation

of examples that had their *raison d'être* under conditions of living that are gone now beyond recall. Since Sheraton's day, the machine has come into the shop, and our business is to guide its inhuman ingenuity into safe desirable paths, where its activities are for our comfort and well-being. We may, I hold we should, rebel against the present get-up of the modern piano and clamour for its improvement, but the piano is an article of necessity in the house—and its presence in the drawing room pulls the peg out of your stylist's harmony of assortment. Because we stand as firmly as we can base ourselves with our feet on the past, is no reason why we should have our eyes at the back of our heads. Phrases such as these: "For pictures, use old-fashioned coloured prints with frames rather light in tone, and silhouettes framed in black. Quaint old cut-glass scent-bottles and other dresser accessories would enter into the spirit of the room" sound like the murmurs of a sleeper: and I grieve to find on page 55 (illustration of a dining room), a warming pan hanging on the wall. Is there a spinning wheel in the adjacent drawing room?

The adjective "exquisite" is liberally used, and when it occurs on page 61, in the sentence "a Japanese floral design on a background of exquisite grey," one feels a kind of pity for the over-worked word. The language verges on the precious—one room is to be upholstered in "amaranth and fawn"—though the colour given hardly recalls the red plumes of "Love lies bleeding." The equilibrium of the "pieces" in their relation to each other, seems too delicate for the rough usage of daily wear, and I miss the suggestion of tobacco. This is scarcely facing the facts of our present mode of living—and though the retreat into one of the back waters of life may appeal to some, and their influence (Thoreau's, for instance) may be valuable, the main current of life goes forward: it is our mission to guide it into salutary and fruitful channels—and so, I assume, would say the authors of this book.

HALSEY RICARDO [F.].

## CORRESPONDENCE.

*The Future of our Church Architecture* [pp. 185, 261].

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Those who regard Gothic as essentially the Church style, seem to forget that, as far as the history of the Christian Church is concerned, Gothic has only a secondary and comparatively modern association with worship. The Basilica form and the domed form of church have earlier and, to my mind, more sacred associations.

I quite agree with your correspondent that "the design should be such as will help the worshipper to attain to a reverent attitude of mind"; in fact, I think I said the same thing in other words. Is there any Gothic interior which can compare in this respect with that of Hagia Sophia, the most impressive domed

interior in existence, and the grandest ever erected for Christian worship, though now, unhappily, perverted from its original dedication. Read the account given by Paul the Silentiary of the passionate devotion and aspiration elicited by this interior in the feelings of the congregations of that day.

Let us take larger views of Church history, and we shall no longer regard it as necessarily associated with pointed arches.

H. HEATHCOTE STATHAM [*F.*].

#### Mr. Hambidge's Paper on Greek Design.

26, London Road, Neath, S. Wales.  
15th April, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Mr. Hambidge has made out a strong case in support of his theory that the Greeks based their architectural designs on certain properties and ratios of the rectangle. Surely no shrewder blow has ever been struck at the methods of our ancient exemplars. A building is not a plan and four elevations but a mass or a combination of masses. It would appear to follow from this that, if we must have a mathematical basis for architectural design, we should search for it among solids and cube roots and leave plane figures for the painters.—Yours faithfully,

EDWIN SMITH [*A.*].

112, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3,  
16th April, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Having read Mr. Trystan Edwards's interesting letter in the JOURNAL of April 10th, criticising Mr. Hambidge's lecture on Greek design, may I venture to make one or two remarks? I do so with considerable diffidence, inasmuch as I confess to being in that class which Mr. Edwards refers to as "not having troubled to develop their mathematical talent."

As has been pointed out, "statics determine the mechanical conditions of bodies at rest, while dynamics have to do with bodies in motion." Though not necessarily holding a brief for Mr. Hambidge, his terms "static" and "dynamic" may have been first employed by him after his discovery that the symmetry of crystals fundamentally differed from the symmetrical formation of certain plants, shells, etc. In that the latter appear to be "the orderly arrangement of elements in growth," the term "dynamic" appeals to me as not unreasonable, though, perhaps, I may be open to mathematical correction.

Mr. Hambidge is further criticised for not explaining why a rectangle with sides having the proportion of  $\sqrt{2}$  to 1 is artistically superior to any other rectangle. Remember Mr. Hambidge told us he was no artist! Though very cordially sympathising with Mr. Edwards's  $\sqrt{1000}$  in not having its artistic merit recognised, it does not alter the fact that shapes such as the above-mentioned rectangle, and others con-

nected with  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{5}$ , have actually been used in the Parthenon and elsewhere (presuming, of course, that Mr. Hambidge's measurements are correct).

I had been under the impression that the Greek artists of the Golden Age had worked according to the dictates of their own highly developed sense of art, and had thus arrived at designs which gave the appearance of being "alive" or "dynamic," or whatever you call it; but in the light of Mr. Hambidge's figures, supported by the great Penrose, is it just a coincidence that these designs should be so exactly commensurable when treated as areas?—Yours faithfully,

P. W. HUBBARD, M.A. [*A.*].

112, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3,  
19th April, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Like my son, I also have read Mr. Trystan Edwards's letter in which he very properly takes exception to Mr. Hambidge's use of the terms "static" and "dynamic" as applied to the proportions of classic work. Also, I have had an opportunity of reading my son's reply in support of Mr. Hambidge. Whether Mr. Hambidge's theory is true or not does not concern me at the moment; but what does concern me is that Mr. P. W. Hubbard should attempt to support a false interpretation of terms which have perfectly clear, distinct and recognised meanings.

Mr. P. W. Hubbard's position is made the more illogical, for he actually gives a fair definition of the terms. He quotes that "statics determine mechanical conditions of bodies at rest, while dynamics have to do with bodies in motion." This being so, then surely the term "dynamics" when applied to a building implies that the building is in motion.

When I find a building in motion I am more concerned with such questions as shoring and underpinning rather than with the beauty of the dynamic proportions that the structure is assuming.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE HUBBARD [*F.*].

#### Need of a Form of Contract to meet Present Conditions.

South Hill, Hook Heath, Woking,  
7th April 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—The present conditions of building work have altered so much since the war that it appears to me there should be some form of contract issued officially which would apply to these conditions. It is practically impossible to get a lump sum contract with any building contractors now on the old lines, even with a proviso that a rise in the cost of labour and materials will be allowed. The common arrangement of net cost and profit is much more to their mind, and they appear to get all the work they want on this basis at the present moment.

I have come to the opinion that, except under very special circumstances, this practice is a bad one, as,

however good the intention may be, both on the architect's and the contractor's part, there is not the same incentive to keep down the cost as in the old lump sum contract. In the long run these conditions will injure both the architect and the contractor, but the architect most of all, and, if I am right, some remedy is urgently needed.

It appears to me that what is required is a new form of contract at a lump sum, which sum should include a fixed profit on the job for the contractor, the amount of this profit being the important feature in the contract, and definitely stated. There would, of course, be the usual provision that he should be paid for any rise in the cost of labour and materials, but without any profit thereon, and he might be given a large share in any savings.

If a contract of this kind could be approved by the Institute and issued officially it would be of the greatest assistance to those architects who may feel with me that something should be done to put this matter on a more satisfactory basis.—Yours faithfully.

HORACE FIELD [F.].

## PRINCETON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

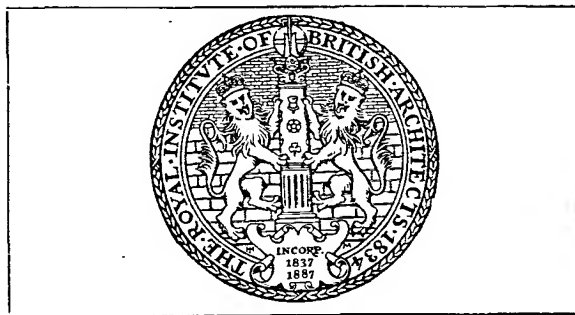
WE should like to extend a cordial welcome to the opening of a School of Architecture in Princeton University. This is not a new creation, but the completion of a plan which has been in process of development for several years. The underlying idea is to combine an ordinary liberal university course with a training in architecture. Put in a few words, four years are spent in obtaining the B.A. degree, in each of which years a gradually increasing amount of time is spent on subjects ancillary to architecture. After the B.A. degree has been obtained, a further course of two years, embracing design, history, materials, thesis, and technical details, with particular emphasis on design, leads to the degree of Master of Fine Arts.

The notable points about this scheme are the close inter-relation of the architect's training with a "lay" university education, the teaching of architecture as a matter primarily of design rather than of engineering (which latter is perhaps the dominant influence in the majority of American Schools of Architecture); the emphasis laid on the close connection between architecture and the allied arts, and, finally, the fact that the crown of the course is a Master's and not a second Bachelor's degree. It should further be noted that the training of the last two years (the post-graduate course) is kept in touch with current architectural expression and outlook by associating the New York Beaux-Arts Institute of Design with the adjudication of some of the design problems.

The experiment will be watched with great interest by all who are interested in the future of architectural education.

W. G. NEWTON [A.].

Hon. Sec. Board of Architectural Education



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 24th April 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### Slow Building : Effects of Control on the Industry : The New Categories.

*The Times* of the 19th inst. published the following communication from the President :—

"We are, it is to be feared, about to see widespread unemployment in the building trade, and that among its steadiest and most highly-skilled artisans. Work, despite high prices, is waiting in abundance, but the persistent desire of Government officials to continue and extend their interference with the normal working of this most complex industry has hindered its revival ever since the Armistice. Although losses due to the war and other causes have reduced the number of men engaged in building by nearly one-fourth during the last five years, they are still not fully employed, and many more must be deprived of their livelihood by the operation of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act of last December.

"The national housing question is urgent ; every patriotic citizen recognises its importance, and the Royal Institute of British Architects (loyally backed by the Society of Architects) is doing, and has done, its utmost to help in the erection of houses ; yet progress is lamentably slow.

"Broadly speaking, arrears of housing are still untouched, the building in hand hardly corresponds with the annual increase in demand for accommodation. The Building Industries Consultative Board (whereon architects, surveyors, operatives, and employers are equally represented) long since pointed out where the obstruction lay, and insisted that the industry should be free from the control and interference of officials and enjoy the full liberty to manage its own affairs which it possessed before the war. Their protest, supported by correspondence in the technical Press, was unheeded ; the Ministry of Health, panic-stricken at its failure to produce houses in its own way, armed itself with yet more drastic powers, hoping, by the prohibition of every other kind of building, to force all the industrial rivulets into a single narrow channel of housing. The policy is as hopeless in practice as it is unsound in theory ; to obtain a stronger current, the tributary sources must be fed to overflowing until a general flood of building quickens, in its turn, the

sluggish stream of housing. To change the metaphor, the building industry is an immense and delicately adjusted machine, and increased production cannot be obtained from one part of it by clogging the wheels in another part; but it is easy to cause hideous disorganisation, and disturbance in the building trade, which is connected with, and reacts upon, every part of our social and economic system, is especially dangerous.

"We are now face to face with the result of the Ministry's action. It was authoritatively stated at the time restrictive powers were being sought that they would be exercised only if and when the erection of 'places of amusement' was shown, after careful consideration, to conflict with the relief of housing congestion. But an unsuspecting Parliament having passed the Act, we find all building works classified under three categories: (1) 'Low,' places of public amusement, cinemas, etc.; (2) 'Intermediate,' works 'not immediately necessary,' including shops, warehouses, stores, and factories; (3) 'High,' such industrial buildings as cannot be prohibited 'without most serious consideration,' works such as will produce increased employment and local or national revenue.

"We need not trouble for the moment about the first category, under which many buildings have been stopped. But categories 2 and 3 are now attacked, and proceedings taken, both in London and the provinces, to prohibit industrial buildings which would produce increased local and national revenue. While, therefore, loans are being raised by the local authorities (with the aid of underwriters), their rating security is at the same time being diminished. Nor will the new houses be a source of income to defray interest on the loans; not only do the rates on such small property barely cover the yearly expenditure on its roads, lighting, collection, etc., but it is out of the question to obtain really economic rents. Local authorities will, in many cases, stand at an actual loss of £40 to £60 per annum on every house they erect. The position is most serious: those who contemplate commercial building operations must realise that they proceed at the risk of being stopped, and it should not be forgotten that no rates are payable on unfinished buildings and vacant sites.

"It is, however, of the imminent peril of unemployment that I especially wish to warn your readers. There is no place for the highly skilled class of operatives in cottage building, which could, in practice, be executed almost wholly by labourers. A little joinery, a still smaller amount of plumbing, is all the skilled work that can profitably be absorbed. The steel-workers and erectors, stonemasons, hardwood joiners, cabinet-makers, shop fitters, marble masons, bronze and other art-metal workers, fireproof floor constructors, carvers, fine plaster modellers and casters, together with scaffolders, crane-drivers, and the men of an infinite ramification of dependent manufactures, will presently be walking the streets if these 'luxury

buildings' ('give a dog a bad name') are to be prohibited. The operatives I have indicated are unfitted for outdoor work on cottages, for the most part they are 'indoor' hands; nor, unless the Government proposes to conscribe labour, can they be transferred to other districts than their own.

"It is not to be wondered at that the spectre of unemployment still haunts the building trade; nor will it disappear until operatives are convinced, by the object-lesson of universal building activity, that the industry is really prosperous. Housing schemes will move briskly when labour is attracted to building and the trades recruited far above their present strength. Nothing will effect these ends but the stimulation and encouragement of every kind of building enterprise.

JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President R.I.B.A.*"

*The Times* of the 21st, under the heading "Alarm in the Trade," says:

A director of one of the largest firms of builders and contractors in the country informed a representative of *The Times* that they entirely agreed with the statements contained in Mr. Simpson's letter, and expressed the view that the Government's action would lead to disorder throughout the industry.

"All the large firms," he added, "are forming an organisation for building the class of houses that is required, and are deputing organisers to obtain the right kind of outside labour. They are helping the Government schemes as much as they can. This firm is tendering for a job representing over 30 millions sterling, to build 24,000 houses of the class needed. Their more highly skilled men cannot adapt themselves to that kind of work after a lifelong training in a class of work so different.

"The Government should have got representatives of all the big contractors together to see what action they could take with safety instead of plunging into things they did not understand, and, when they are 'up against' an *impasse*, finding out too late that they should have done something else.

The Labour view is in many respects similar to that of the master builders.

Mr. J. Murrey, Secretary of the London District Council of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives, said it was very difficult to define luxury building. A cinema was not a luxury in a district where there was no other amusement. He agreed that a large proportion of the more highly skilled labour engaged on "luxury" building could not be used for house building. "The only way to utilise it in housing work would be to adopt methods similar to those employed in regard to munition production," he said, "and that would not be acceptable to an industry that does not desire nationalisation and has nothing to gain from it. There is also the difficulty of getting labour which is available to the districts where building is going on. The Dagenham scheme presents a great transport problem."

#### Luxury Building.

A note in *The Times* of the 16th inst. states that the Committee appointed by the London County Council to deal with the powers conferred upon local authorities to prohibit operations which interfere with the provision of dwelling houses will make an order of prohibition in every case of a building falling within the "low category," as defined by the Ministry



of Health, unless some very special reason against that course can be adduced to their satisfaction in any particular instance.

It may also be found necessary to prohibit operations in respect of some buildings of the "intermediate category," and all concerned in the proposed erection of the classes of buildings indicated are advised, in order to avoid undue interruption and unnecessary loss, to communicate their proposals to the Council at an early stage.

Works of "low category" include such premises as billiard halls and saloons, cinemas, music halls and theatres, dancing halls, licensed premises, and clubs and premises for other recreations. Works of "intermediate category" may include speculative, office, or other buildings, multiple shops, large stores and warehouses for retail trade, and, perhaps, in some cases factories and mills. Such buildings as churches, chapels, or places of public assembly may also be placed in this category.

#### The Royal Gold Medal, 1920.

The following letters have passed between the President and M. Girault:—

le 29 Mars, 1920.

*Monsieur Ch. Girault, Membre de l'Institut.*

TRÈS HONORÉ CONFRÈRE ET CHER AMI,

J'ai la grande satisfaction de vous informer que l'Assemblée Générale de l'Institut Royal des Architectes Britanniques vous a nommé, par voix unanime, pour recevoir la Médaille d'or en Architecture de Sa Majesté George V.

Permettez-moi donc de vous offrir mes félicitations les plus cordiales et chaleureuses pour l'hommage ainsi rendu par vos confrères Anglais à votre beau talent. C'est le plus grand honneur qu'ils puissent décerner aux grands de notre cher art, cette médaille déjà portée par vos éminents prédécesseurs, Hittorff, Lesueur, Viollet-le-Duc, Louis Duc, Garnier, Daumet et Pascal, et vous l'avez bien mérité. . . . .

Je vous serre cordialement la main avec tous mes souhaits pour une vie longue et heureuse.

Votre bien dévoué confrère,

PRÉSIDENT R.I.B.A.

le 12 Avril, 1920.

*Monsieur J. W. Simpson, Président de l'Institut Royal des Architectes Britanniques.*

MON CHER PRÉSIDENT ET TRÈS HONORÉ CONFRÈRE,

Voulez-vous, je vous prie, à votre plus prochaine Séance, être mon interprète auprès de nos confrères et leur exprimer mes sentiments de gratitude et de reconnaissance pour le grand honneur qu'ils m'ont fait en me décernant la Grande Médaille d'or en Architecture de Sa Majesté George V.

C'est pour moi une grande joie d'être l'élu de tous en cette occurrence; heureux aussi que vos illustres confrères m'aient trouvé digne de figurer parmi les grands architectes qu'ils ont déjà honorés de cette haute marque de distinction.

Voulez-vous, mon cher Président, transmettre à votre compagnie mes salutations de bonne confraternité et trouver ici l'expression de mes très dévoués et très distingués sentiments.

CH. GIRAULT.

#### Mr. Ralph Adams Cram on the Mission of Art.

At the General Meeting of the 12th inst., members had again the pleasure of greeting their eminent American *confrère*, Mr. Ralph Adams Cram, Litt.D., of Boston, who is paying a fleeting visit to Europe. Mr. Cram had been the guest of the Council Dinner Club that evening, and had come on afterwards to the Institute to hear Mr. Begg's Paper, "Architecture in India." Mr. Cram's last visit to the Institute, in 1912, will be recalled, together with the brilliant Paper he read on the occasion, "Recent University Architecture in the United States," described at the time as, in a literary sense, one of the finest Papers ever read at the Institute, not only in its substance, but in the admirable manner of its delivery. Mr. Cram's remarkable pamphlet, "The Significance of the Great War," published in October, 1914, will also be recalled, with its scathing indictment of Germany and exposure of its ruler's "Satanic dream of material supremacy founded on force and the denial of abstract right and wrong."

The PRESIDENT, on taking the Chair at the meeting, introduced Mr. Cram as a member of the American Institute of Architects and expressed the pleasure and delight it gave members to meet their foreign brethren, especially those of the Allied Nations, and more especially of America. (Hear, hear.) There were, he said, all sorts of difficulties facing the world outside—political squabbles, Leagues of Nations, etc., etc., etc.—but there was one matter on which there was no friction and no division, on which there was nothing but the most friendly and cordial contact, and that was Art. Art was the one sympathetic, permanent point of contact between all civilised peoples, and the Institute was extremely glad to have the opportunity of welcoming among them that evening a distinguished American exponent of their own art, their proved friend and Corresponding Member, Mr. Cram.

Speaking after the reading of Mr. Begg's Paper, Mr. Cram said that he had been introduced as a member of the American Institute of Architects, but he was even prouder of being an Hon. Corresponding Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Mr. Cram then dealt with the subject of the Paper, and at the conclusion referred to the President's remark that there are no national divisions in Art. "This is fundamentally true," he said, "and needs to be constantly borne in mind. All those divisions which separate one race, one people, from another, are being emphasised at the present time, and for political and financial considerations only, after a fashion that bids fair to bring the community of modern civilization to an end in black

disaster unless it is at once blocked. I believe that we architects, and all who follow different forms of art, can play a very great part at this time in working against that policy of division, because we represent one of those things in which there can be no political division, Art itself, the expression of all the best that there is in any time or place. I am not speaking solely of architecture, but of painting, music, poetry, sculpture, and all the great arts which come together under the co-ordinating force of architecture: for it is the glory of architecture that it is the supreme co-ordinating force amongst the arts. And if the power of unifying which is the architect's peculiar possession can be brought to bear on the problems and dangers of the moment, I think we architects, painters, sculptors, may perhaps play a greater part in the establishment of a real basis of good and sound civilization than can the self-seeking politicians, financiers and materialists of the day. So you can link up architecture always with life, and with civilization, because it is fundamental, it is the expression of the people of a time, the expression of the best of those people. And I would urge here, as I urge always, that architects should realise the power which they can exert, outside the limits of their profession as an artistic profession, as exponents of a great co-ordinating force which is not only a unifying but also a creative force. It is work that I believe we are bound, in duty, to take over for ourselves. The dangers that encompass civilization at the present moment are incalculable, immeasurable, and self-seeking politicians and financiers are exaggerating those difficulties to the last degree. It is not an easy task for me to come from America at this time to France—where I have been—or to England, and to say that I am speaking for a country that is misunderstood, I think inevitably misunderstood. I wish to say this to you, and I can say it with truth, if not with authority: that America is, in the persons of the majority of her people, as staunchly and steadfastly, as permanently with her former Allies as she was in the great days of the fighting during the five years of war. (Applause.) Politicians are a substitute for character and good government, politicians misrepresent, and that is one of the fatalities of the present day: that the people of Great Britain, shall I say, certainly of America, and I think the people of France, are only too often misrepresented by self-seeking politicians. Let us get behind politicians, financiers and materialists. We can, because we know we are dealing with one of the real things of the world, Art, as an expression of the great and lasting things in civilization. I ask simply that we, as far as we can, should get outside the limiting lines and boundaries of our own profession and bring our influence to bear on this great problem of reconstruction of a real civilization on the ruins of the old civilization of the past" (Much applause.)

Mr. Thomas Hardy, R.I.B.A. Essay Medallist 1862.

Mr. Keen, in announcing the nomination of Mr. Thomas Hardy, O.M., to Hon. Fellowship of the Insti-

tute, at the General Meeting of the 12th inst., recalled that Mr. Hardy first became associated with the Institute fifty-eight years ago, when he competed in the Prize Competitions and was awarded the R.I.B.A. Silver Medal for an Essay on "The Application of Coloured Bricks and Terra-Cotta to Modern Architecture," submitted under the motto "*Tentavi, quid in eo genere possem.*" Mr. Hardy had chosen his subject from among four set by the Council, the others being (2) The Application of Timber Work in England, constructively and artistically, from the year 1400 to the present time; (3) On the Stained Glass of the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries; (4) On the Use of Concrete for Vaults and Roofing Purposes. 9, Clarence Place, Kilburn, and 8 St. Martin's Place were Mr. Hardy's addresses at the time.

#### Competition for War Memorial to be erected at the Institute.

The Council of the Royal Institute have decided to erect a Memorial Tablet with the names of those Members, Licentiates, and Students of the R.I.B.A. who laid down their lives in the service of the Empire during the Great War. A competition is to be held for the design of the Tablet. It will be open only to Members, Licentiates and Students of the R.I.B.A. who served in the Forces during the War.

The President has been requested by the Council to act as Assessor. The conditions of the Competition are given below, and copies can be obtained by any intending competitors who apply to the Secretary.

The Council invite subscriptions, which should in no case exceed one guinea, to raise a fund for the erection of the Memorial. Cheques or Postal Orders should be made payable to the Royal Institute of British Architects, and should be addressed to the Secretary, 9 Conduit Street, Regent Street, W.1.

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPETITORS.

1. The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects invite those of its Members, Licentiates, Students and Probationers who have served in His Majesty's Forces during the War to submit designs for a Memorial to be placed in the Hall of the Institute premises.

2. The Council have appointed the President to act as the Assessor and to make the awards in accordance with these instructions.

3. The award of the Assessor shall be final and binding on both the Council and competitors, and the Author of the design placed first will be appointed to carry out the work—saving that if in the opinion of the Assessor there is some valid objection to his appointment, or if in his opinion any or all of the designs are not of sufficient merit—the Council reserve the right to withhold the appointment or any or all of the premiums.

4. Subject only to the above provisions the following sums shall be paid:—

To the Author of the design placed first, an honorarium of 100 guineas.

To the Author of the design placed second, a premium of 30 guineas.

To the Author of the design placed third, a premium of 20 guineas.

The Author of the design placed first, when appointed to carry out the work, shall make such amendments (if any) in his design as the Council may desire, shall prepare and supply complete working drawings and details, shall superintend the execution of the work and certify for payment.

5. The choice of materials is left to the competitors, but it is stipulated that the Memorial should be so constructed that it may be removed and re-erected elsewhere in the event of this being necessary at some future time.

Space is required upon the Memorial for approximately 200 surnames with initials only of Christian names (no ranks or regiments). Special attention is to be paid to the lettering, which must be clearly legible. The wall area upon which the Memorial is to be placed is indicated on the attached drawing. [Copies will be forwarded to intending competitors on application to the Secretary.]

6. The total cost of the Memorial fixed complete is not to exceed the sum of £500, exclusive of Honorariums and Premiums.

7. The method in which the drawings are finished is left to the discretion of the competitors, but they must be on white paper, and unframed. Mounting on strainers or cards (without wide margins) is optional, but all drawings must be delivered flat. Models are not invited.

The following drawings are required:—

One-eighth full size ( $=1\frac{1}{8}$  in. scale) elevation of Memorial, showing position in space allotted (clause 5), with explanatory sections and plans.

Any typical full size details with examples of lettering which competitors may desire to submit (one sheet only).

No report is required, but full notes and particulars as to treatment, materials, and cost, are to be *clearly* written on the drawings.

8. After the award has been made the competition designs will be exhibited in the R.I.B.A. Galleries.

The Council will exercise every reasonable care with regard to the several drawings, but will not be responsible for any loss or damage which may occur.

9. A design shall be excluded from the competition for any of the following reasons, of the sufficiency of which the Assessor shall be the sole judge.

- (1) If sent in after the specified date (accidents in transport excepted).
- (2) Non-compliance in any important respect with these instructions and particulars.

10. All designs are to be sent in anonymously without motto or device of any kind, and are to be delivered carriage paid addressed to the Secretary, Royal Institute of British Architects, 9 Conduit Street, London, W., and endorsed "R.I.B.A. War Memorial Competition," on or before July 20th, 1920.

Each design is to be accompanied by a sealed foolscap envelope containing the name and address of the Author and a declaration signed by him stating that the design is his own personal work and that the drawings have been prepared by him or in his office under his own supervision.

Any questions which competitors desire to raise must be addressed to the Secretary R.I.B.A. on or before 30th May next; copies of such questions, and the answers thereto, as the Assessor considers necessary will be sent to each competitor, and will be regarded as supplementary to these instructions.

#### Proposed Memorial to Beaux-Arts Students.

At a meeting, held recently, of Professors of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris, presided over by the Director, M. Léon Bonnat, it was resolved to form a Committee to arrange for the erection in the school of a memorial to the students and members of the staff who fell in the Great War. A subscription list has now been opened to collect the funds necessary for the realisation of the project. The Committee, in a circular letter, a copy of which was addressed to the Institute from the Ministry of Public Instruction and Fine Arts at Paris, urges that the first list should contain the names of all those who are directly interested in the school: this, it was hoped, would have the effect of arousing sympathy with the movement not only in France but in other countries. No estimate is hazarded of the ultimate cost of the monument, but the promoters state that their first aim is to make it worthy of the young artists whose lives were sacrificed for their country, and worthy also of the great institution whose walls are to shelter the monument. The venerable School at Paris is regarded almost as an international institution; and, artists of other countries will appreciate the compliment of being invited to subscribe. Subscriptions by cheque or Post Office Order should be addressed to M. Pontremoli, Treasurr, 1e Rue Spontini, Paris.

#### The Council's Compliment to an Associate Colleague.

At the Council Meeting of the 2nd February last it was Resolved that Mr. Herbert Shepherd's application for the Fellowship be approved, and that his papers be signed by the Council in recognition of his services to the Royal Institute as an Associate Member of the Council [1914-19].

## MINUTES. XII.

At the Twelfth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 12th April, 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr John W. Simpson, *President*, in the Chair; 1 Hon. Corresponding Member, 15 Fellows (including 7 members of the Council), 28 Associates (including 2 members of the Council), 2 Licentiates, and several visitors—the Minutes of the meetings held on the 22nd and 29th March were taken as read and signed as correct.

Mr. Ralph Adams Cram, Litt.D., of Boston, U.S.A., attending for the first time since his election as Hon. Corresponding Member, was formally introduced by the President, and later in the evening addressed the meeting.

The decease was announced of James Ledingham, Associate 1885. Fellow 1892, Retired Fellow 1916.

The Hon. Secretary announced that the Council had nominated to the Hon. Fellowship of the Royal Institute Mr. Thomas Hardy, O.M. [*R.I.B.A. Essay Medallist* 1862], on the ground of his eminence as a man of letters and his former association with the art of Architecture.

Mr. John Begg [F.], Consulting Architect to the Government of India, having read a Paper on "ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA," and illustrated it by lantern slides, a discussion ensued,\* and a vote of thanks was passed to him by acclamation on the motion of Mr. James Ransome [F.], seconded by Sir Lionel Jacob, K.C.S.I.

The proceedings terminated at 9.50 p.m.

\* Paper and discussion, with a selection of the illustrations, will appear in the JOURNAL for 22nd May.

## NOTICES.

## Election of Members, 7th June.

The following applications for election have been received. Notice of any objection or other communication respecting them must be sent for submission to the Council prior to Monday, 17th May :—

## AS HON. ASSOCIATE.

DITCHFIELD: REV. PETER HAMPSON, M.A., F.S.A., The Rectory, Barkham, Wokingham, Berks.

## AS FELLOWS (19).

ACUTTER: THOMAS CHARLES [A., 1907], Superintending Civil Engineer, Admiralty, S.W., and 48 S. Mary Abbott's Terrace, Kensington, W.14.

ANDERSON: Captain HERBERT COOPER, R.E. [A., 1909], Garrison Engineer, Aden Brigade, Aden, Arabia, and Fairholm, Woodford Road, Bramhall, Cheshire.

CULLEY: NORMAN [A., 1904], 13 John William Street, Huddersfield, and The Croft, Birkby, Huddersfield.

CURTIS: SPENCER CAREY [A., 1904], Le Mont Saint, Guernsey.

ELMS: EDWARD FURNESS MARSON [A., 1902], 25 Sackville Street, W.1.

GORDON: HENRY PERCY [A., 1904], Finsbury House, Blomfield Street, E.C., and Inglewood, Rickmansworth, Herts.

HALL: Alner Wilson, M.C. [A., 1910], 17 Southampton Street, Bloomsbury, W.C., and "The Brambles," Chorley Wood, Herts.

HETT: LEONARD KEIR [A., 1911], 13 and 14 Great Castle Street, W.1, and Hapstead, Ardingly, Sussex.

MOBERLY: ARTHUR HAMILTON, M.A. Cantab. [A., 1910], 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., and 48 Hampstead Way, N.W.4.

RICHLEY: NORMAN [A., 1919], Shire Hall, Durham, and 44 Old Elvet, Durham.

SHEPHERD: HERBERT [A., 1898], 117 Queen's Road, Bayswater, W.2, and "The Croft," Grove Park Gardens, Chiswick, W.4.

SMITH: FRANCIS DANBY [A., 1902], Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.1, and 136 Rosendale Road, Dulwich, S.E.21.

TROUP: FRANCIS GORDON [A., 1910], 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., and 48 High Street, Hoddesdon.

WOOD: ERNEST MARSHALL [A., 1909], c/o Messrs. Little, Adams & Wood, Hong-Kong, and Srameen, Canton.

And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying examination :—

ARMSTRONG: CHARLES MONTEGUE CECIL, 5 High Street, Warwick, and Plestowes, Barford, Warwick.

EVILL: NORMAN, 67 George Street, Portman Square, W.1., and 24 Church Row, Hampstead, N.W.

FARROW: JOHN WILFORD HILBERT, Oxford Chambers, East London, South Africa.

LLOYD: THOMAS ALWYN, 32 Park Place, Cardiff, 3 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., and "Hafod-Lwyd," Rhiwbina, Cardiff.

WAKEFIELD: BENJAMIN FREDERICK GEORGE, 14 Orchard Street, and Howard Road, Westbury Park, Bristol.

## AS ASSOCIATES (140).

N.B.—The Special War Exemption candidates had in all cases qualified for registration as Students after 1909 and before the completion of their War Service, but were not actually registered till the dates mentioned against their names.—See Regulation, JOURNAL, 9th November, 1919.

ACKROYD: SAMUEL WILLIAM [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 22 Gladstone Street, Aulaby Road, Hull.

ADDEY: FREDERICK ARNOLD, P.A.S.I. [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 48 Penywern Road, Earl's Court, S.W.

ALLISON: WILLIAM, P.A.S.I. [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 1 Gordon Street, Gordon Square, W.C.

ALLUM: STANLEY CHARLES [*Special War Examination*], 24 Chichester Road, Westbourne Square, Paddington.

ASHENDEN: HERBERT CAMPBELL, M.C., P.A.S.I. [S., 1912 *Special War Exemption*], Ventnor House, Canterbury.

ASHMAN: HERBERT WILLIAM [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Bryher, Kingston Road, Teddington.

ASLIN: CHARLES HERBERT [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 73 Lennox Road, Hillsboro', Sheffield.

BATTISCOMBE: HUMPHREY [S., 1918—*Special War Exemption*], Beverley, Orpington, Kent.

BINNIE: WILLIAM BRYCE [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Springwells Avenue, Airdrie, N.B.

BLACKBURN: NORMAN ARTHUR [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Waynville, Westboro', Dewsbury.

BLACKFORD: JOSEPH [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Hartlebury, Kidderminster, Worcs.

BLACKWELL: CHARLES CHRISTIE [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 20 Wentworth Road, Leicester.

BLAMPY: ROY CHARLES [*Special War Examination*], The Croft, Samaris, Jersey.

BOYD: JOHN SHAW [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], Ashburn, Strone, Argyllshire.

BRADDELL: THOMAS ARTHUR DARCY [*Special War Examination*], 13 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W.1.

BRODIE: ROBERT [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 66 Castle Road, Cathcart, Glasgow.

BROOKS: CHRISTOPHER JOHN [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 4 Newton Mansions, Queen's Club, W.14.

BROOMHALL: THOMAS HARGREAVES [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 9 Park View, Walton, Wakefield, Yorks.

BRYCE: ANDREW DOUGLAS [*Special War Examination*], 68 Kirkstall Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.2.

BUCHANAN: ALLAN POLLOCK MCKENZIE [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 274 Renfrew Street, Glasgow.

BURCHETT: HOWARD WILLIAM [*Special War Examination*], Sunningdale, Keston, Kent.

BUTCHER: HENRY FREDERICK [*Special War Examination*], c/o High Commissioner for New Zealand, Strand, W.C.

CALDWELL: OLIVER REGINALD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Elmsdale, Alexandra Road, Penzance.

CHING: WILMOT THORNE [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 4 Mitre Court, Temple, E.C.4.

CLAYDON: LIFFORD [*Special War Examination*], 89 Sterndale Road, West Kensington, W.14.

CLAYTON: CHARLES LAWRENCE [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Prince Albert Street, Brighton.

COLLIN: BERTIE PHILLIPPS [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], Hanningham Vicarage, Leamington Spa.

CORNISH: CHARLES EDWIN [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Yeo Vale Cottage, Pilton, Barnstaple.

COTTINGHAM: GARNET REGINALD [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 37 Vernham Road, Plumstead, S.E.18.

COULSON: RICHARD CARTE [*Special War Examination*], 7 Elm Park Road, Chelsea, S.W.3.

COUPLAND: WILLIAM VERNON [*Special War Examination*], 82 Victoria Street, S.W.1.

CRASKE: CLIFFORD WIGG [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 140 Hunter's Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

CROSSLEY: GEORGE [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Springfield, Baildon, near Shipley, Yorks.

CRUICKSHANK: HERBERT WILLIAM [*Special War Examination*], 25 Examiners' Buildings, Strutt Street, Manchester.

CULLEN: ALEXANDER [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 14 Hamilton Park Terrace, Glasgow, W.

CURTIS: HERBERT LEVIS [*Special War Examination*], 2 Anson Road, Tufnell Park, N.7.

DAILEY: ARTHUR BENJAMIN [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 97 Elspeth Road, S.W.11.

DODD: ROBERT FIELDING [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], "The Cottage," Castleton, Isle of Man.

DOWNER: GEORGE EDWIN [*Special War Examination*], King Street, Fielding, New Zealand.

- DUNCAN: RONALD AVER [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 31A Givendor Road, West Kensington, W.14.
- DURNFORD: WILLIAM JOHN [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 42 Rostrevor Road, S.W.6.
- EATON: GEORGE MORLEY, P.A.S.I. [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 219 Burton Road, Derby.
- EDWARDS: KENNETH DREW [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Thornton, Thurlow Park, Torquay.
- EMES: JAMES ALBERT [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 14 Nightingale Square, Wandsworth Common, S.W.
- EVANS: HENRY GORONWY [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Blaencenen, Gwynfe, Llangadock.
- FILDES: GEOFFREY [S. 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 19 Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.
- FISHER: HENRY NETTLETON, M.C. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 84 Hungerford Road, Camden Road, N.7.
- FURNER: ARTHUR STANLEY [Special War Examination], 12 Normandy Avenue, High Barnet.
- GARRETT: STANLEY G. [Special War Examination], 35 Bedford Square, W.C.
- GLEN: ALEXANDER GRAHAM [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 2 Edmiston Drive, Ibrox, Glasgow.
- GOODSALL: ROBERT HAROLD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Oxford Street, Whitstable, Kent.
- GOODWIN: HARRY THOMAS [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 39 Granville Park, Blackheath, S.E.
- GORDON: JOSEPH DAVISON [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Conway Square, Newtownards, Co. Down.
- GORDON: PERCY JAMES [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 7 Moore Street, Sydney, Australia.
- GOSTLING: WILFRID BERNARD, M.C. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 51 Park Avenue South, N.8.
- GRABHAM: STANLEY [Special War Examination], 109 Oxford Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.
- GRANT: JOHN PETER DIPPY [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Bute Estate Office, Castle Street, Cardiff.
- HAIGH: NORMAN CHARLES [Special War Examination], 8 Wilson Street, Wellington, N.Z.
- HALE: PERCY EDWARD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 117 Forest Road, Dalston, N.E.
- HAMILTON: IAN BOGLE MONTEITH, B.A. Oxon. [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 16 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.
- HAMILTON: THOMAS CRESSEY [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 41 Balmoral Terrace, Gosforth, Newcastle.
- HARRIS: WILFRED HENRY, P.A.S.I. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 76A Bedford Road, Clapham, S.W.
- HENSHALL: LOUIS SYDNEY, D.S.O. [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], Stockton Heath, Warrington.
- HERFORD: THEODORE WELBY [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 27 Heaton Road, Withington, near Manchester.
- HODGES: JOHN STEWART [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 31 Kingswood Avenue, Brondesbury.
- HOLLAND: HARRY [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], The Orchard House, Richmond Hill, S.W.
- HOLROYD: FRANK [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 8 Warwick Place, Leeds.
- HONEYMAN: HERBERT LEWIS [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 1 Graingerville South, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- HOSSACK: JAMES DAVIDSON [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 27 Surbiton Hill Park, Surbiton.
- HOUSTON: JAMES [S., 1918—*Special War Exemption*], Glenlogan, Kilbirnie, Ayrshire.
- HOWELL: JOHN ALLNUTT [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], "The Laurels," Cumnor, near Oxford.
- HUDSON: THOMAS [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 2 Cassiobury Park Avenue, Watford, Herts.
- INMAN: GORDON HENRY NISBET [S. 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 7 Bedford Row, W.C.1.
- JACKSON: BURROUGH DE CARLE [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Chelston, Overbury Avenue, Beckenham.
- JOHNSON: HENRY ANDREW [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], The Vicarage, Great Harwood, Blackburn.
- JOHNSON: REGINALD SIDNEY, M.C. [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 14 Stafford Road, Croydon.
- JONES: SYDNEY STEVENSON [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Mossley Hill Drive, Sefton Park, Liverpool.
- JONES: WILLIAM GEORGE EDMUND [Special War Examination], 54 Loxham Gardens, W.8.
- KAY: MITCHELL CRIGHTON, M.C. [S. 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 62 Westgate, Wakefield.
- LAST: FREDERICK BERTRAM [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Bolton House, Sutton, Surrey.
- LEGG: THEODORE ELLIS [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Tintern, Mornington Road, Woodford Green, Essex.
- LOCHHEAD: ALFRED GEORGE [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Northbank Terrace, Glasgow, N.W.
- LOFTHOUSE: WALLACE GEORGE [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 1 Cartland Road, King's Heath, Birmingham.
- LOVE: ROBERT MACLAREN [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Treviscoe, Launceston, Cornwall.
- LUTYENS: EADRID JOHN TENNANT [S. 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 48 Burton Court, S.W.3.
- McKAY: JOHN ROSS [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Parkside Terrace, Edinburgh.
- MACKEY: SAMUEL ARMSTRONG HURST [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 12 Crossfield Street, Warrington.
- MADDOCK: RICHARD HENRY [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Tremadoc, Egmont Road, Sutton, Surrey.
- MASON: HAROLD CLAYFORTH [S., 1917—*Special War Exemption*], Kelsick Road, Ambleside.
- MILLER: BERNARD ALEXANDER [S. 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Prenton Vicarage, Birkenhead.
- MILLER: ERIC STUART CAMPBELL [Special War Examination], 1 Russell Street, Dunedin, New Zealand.
- MOORE: JOHN D. [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Bayswater, Mackenzie Street, Lindfield, Sydney, N.S.W.
- MORGAN: ALFRED PERCY [Special War Examination], Auckland, New Zealand.
- MORREY: PERCY [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], Enderlie, Crewe Road, Nantwich, Cheshire.
- MOUNTFORD: EDWARD WALLIS [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 4 Carlton Chambers, Lower Regent Street, S.W.
- NICHOLSON: THOMAS [Special War Examination], Pow Street, Workington.
- ODOM: JOHN HENRY [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Kenbourne Grove, Sharrow, Sheffield.
- O'DONOGHUE: RUPERT JOHN GORDON [Special War Examination], Westerton, Lynwood Avenue, Epsom.
- PAGE: THOMAS ALEXANDER [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 3 South View Terrace, South Shields.
- PIDSELY: WILFRID GOULD [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Sandrook, Pinhoe, Devon.
- PRICE: WILLIAM HAROLD [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 15 Orchard Street, Bristol.
- PRYNNE: SHERARD JOHN HOWARD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 40 Gunterstone Road, West Kensington, W.14.
- READ: KENMUIR HARRY [Special War Examination], 35 Claremont Road, Bishopston, Bristol.
- REED: WILLIAM JAMES [Special War Examination], 27, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.1.
- RICHARDSON: HERBERT CLIFFORD [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], St. Austell, Ashton-on-Mersey, Cheshire.
- RILEY: RICHARD HOLDEN, P.A.S.I. [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 613 Bolton Road, Ewood, Blackburn.
- ROBERTS: ARTHUR BEAVER LLEWELLYN [S. 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 3 Tregunter Road, S.W.10.
- ROBINSON: ERIC ORME [Special War Examination], 45 Mornington Street, Keighley, Yorks.
- ROUTLEY: LEONARD JAMES [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Irene Road, Parson's Green, S.W.6.
- ST. LEGER: CHARLES DOUGLAS, M.C. [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Lansdowne Crescent, W.11.

- SCOTT: THOMAS EDWARD [*Special War Examination*], 92 Meeting House Lane, S.E.15.
- SHAW: ROBERT PHILIP [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 26 North Bridge Street, Bathgate, Linlithgowshire.
- SHEARER: THOMAS SMITH [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 75 Limerston Street, Chelsea, S.W.
- SHERWIN: CECIL THOMAS [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], West House, Drury Lane, Wakefield.
- SWALLOW: JOSEPH CEDRIC [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Westridge, Sandbanks, Dorset.
- SYKES: ALEXANDER RICHARD [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], Low Wood, Lyndhurst, Hants.
- TASKER: EDWARD CLOUGH [*Special War Examination*], 46 Ramshill Road, Scarborough.
- TEBBUTT: HENRY JEMSON [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 35 Fordhook Avenue, Ealing, W.5.
- TEMPEST: FREDERICK WILLIAM [*Special War Examination*], 45 Woodhouse Road, Mansfield, Notts.
- THIRTL: TOM OWEN [*Special War Examination*], 35 Sheeppcote Road, Harrow.
- THOMPSON: GEORGE RICHARD, M.C. [S. 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 61 Hunter Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
- TOOTHILL: JOHN CEDRIC PENMAN [S. 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 2 Park Avenue, Sheffield.
- TRANMER: FRANK [S. 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Westminster Chambers, Harrogate.
- VERNON: FREDERICK AUSTIN [*Special War Examination*], 5 Duncan Terrace, Islington, N.1.
- WARDILL: REGINALD WILLIAM [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 72 Greenvale Road, Eltham, S.E.9.
- WATERHOUSE: MICHAEL THEODORE, M.C. [*Special War Examination*], Staple Inn Buildings, High Holborn, W.C.
- WATT: JOHN DESBOROUGH [S. 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 15 Lancaster Park, Richmond, Surrey.
- WHIMSTER: HENRY NEIL [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Woodville, Helensburgh.
- WHITE: PERCY GORDON [S. 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Caerlaverock, Bickley Road, Bickley, Kent.
- WILLIAMS: WILLIAM JOHN VAUGHAN [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 3 Brunswick Terrace, Weymouth.
- WILLIAMSON: FREDERICK [S. 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Lynton House, Rushford Avenue, Levenshulme, Manchester.
- WILSON: ARTHUR [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Beech House, St. Bees, Cumberland.
- WILSON: ROBERT, JR. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Almalea, Falkirk, Stirlingshire.
- WINDER: ARTHUR MAYALL [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 254 Waterloo Street, Oldham.
- WOOD: JAMES [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 3 Strathaven Terrace, Oban, Argyllshire.
- WOOD: ORMOND PHILIP [S., 1916—*Special War Exemption*], Brundah, Nelson's Point, Sydney, N.S.W.
- WYATT: PHILIP HUMPHRY, O.B.E. [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 40 Hunter Street, W.C.1.
- WYLIE: EDWARD GRIGG, M.C. [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 212 Bath Street, Glasgow.
- YOUNG: JAMES REID [*Special War Examination*], 12 Scottish Provident Buildings, Belfast.

### TO JUNIOR ARCHITECTS.

APPOINTMENTS IN BOMBAY.—The President of the R.I.B.A. will be glad to receive the names of applicants for four appointments as Assistant Architects under the Government of Bombay—commencing salaries from £875 to £1,085 per annum. Candidates must be Fellows or Associates of the R.I.B.A., not less than 25 years of age, and should have had consider-

able practical experience. Applications with full particulars and copies of testimonials should be addressed to the Secretary, the R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, Regent Street, W.1.

APPOINTMENTS IN CHINA.—The President will also be glad to receive the names of applicants for two official appointments in China—commencing salaries about £700 per annum. Candidates must be Fellows or Associates of the R.I.B.A., not less than 28 years of age, with good knowledge of reinforced concrete design and construction. Applications to be made as above.

### Annual General Meeting, 3rd May, 1920.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held MONDAY, 3rd MAY 1920, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held 12th April, 1920; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To receive and consider the Annual Report of the Council for the official year 1919-20 (printed on preceding pages of this issue—copies will be available at the meeting).

To nominate candidates (1 Fellow and 1 Associate) for the office of Hon. Auditors for the ensuing year.

To receive the list of attendances at the meetings of the Council and Standing Committees during the Session.

### Special General Meeting, 10th May, 1920.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING, summoned by the Council under By-law 65, will be held on Monday, 10th May, at 8 p.m., when the following Resolution will be moved from the Chair:—

That, in order to provide funds to meet the increase in expenditure due to the general advance in prices, an addition of one guinea be made to all entrance fees and subscriptions of members and contributions of Licentiates; and that the necessary steps be taken to obtain the sanction of the Privy Council to such revision of By-law 17 as is required to give effect to this resolution.

### Unification and Registration [see Journal, 10th April].

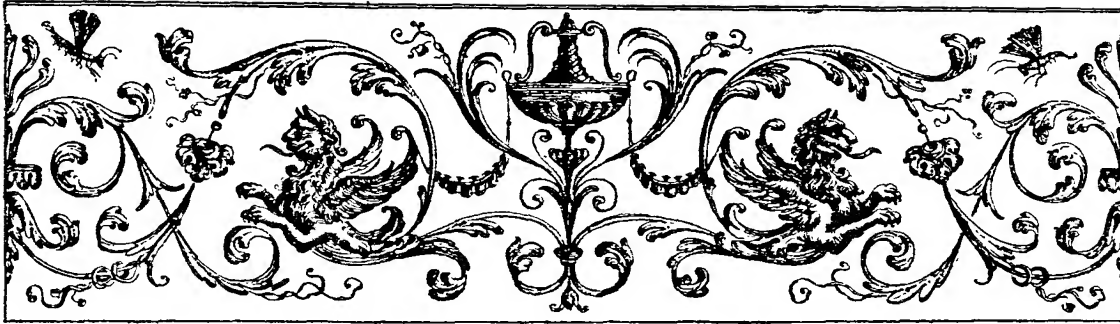
A GENERAL MEETING OF LICENTIATES summoned by the Council to elect seven representatives to act on the Unification Committee will be held at the Institute on Tuesday, 18th May, 1920, at 4.30 p.m.

A GENERAL MEETING OF UNATTACHED ARCHITECTS, to elect three representatives to act on the Unification Committee, will be held at the Institute on Thursday, 20th May, 1920, at 4.30 p.m. All architects not belonging to any professional organisation are invited to attend.

IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

AN ASSOCIATE with very varied experience as an assistant in offices of well-known architects desires to work up perspectives or special drawings for competitions or other purposes for architects needing such assistance, Specialities: Pencil drawing, domestic work and housing schemes.—Address J. S., c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.





## HIGHER BUILDINGS FOR LONDON.

By DELISSA JOSEPH [*F.*].

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 29th March, 1920.

**T**HE recent newspaper discussion on the subject of Higher Buildings for London originated in the Estate Market Column of *The Times* of 1st January, where, in the course of an article dealing with the increasing pressure for accommodation for business purposes in the Central London District, the following observations appeared :—

Conceivably there may be so great a demand for central properties that, in time, a new type of building may be sanctioned in London—new to London, and probably peculiar to it—something intermediate between the larger structures such as those in Kingsway and the “skyscraper.” . . . The provisions of the London Building Act impose strong and perhaps desirable limitations as regards the height of buildings, but, if accommodation must be found, and lateral extension is impossible, the alternative of going higher may have to be faced.

I thereupon addressed a letter to *The Times*, which appeared in its columns on the 10th January, in the course of which I pointed out that, prior to the London Building Act of 1894, there were no restrictions as to the height of buildings in London, except such as were imposed by the Prescription Act of 2 and 3 Will. IV., chap. 71, otherwise known as the Law of Light and Air.

It was only when it was realised that buildings such as Queen Anne’s Mansions (which, by the way, are only 13 storeys high) could be erected without restraint, and when other buildings of great height, such as the Hyde Park Hotel, had been completed, that this new legislation was promoted, and, in the anxiety to safeguard the position, the height of new buildings was limited to 80 feet from the pavement level, superimposed by two storeys in the roof. The Hyde Park Hotel is regarded by some of us as an ornament to London, and there is little doubt that, had Queen Anne’s Mansions received an effective architectural cloak, the feeling against the building would not have been so high.

Although it may be reasonably maintained that a height of 80 feet is adequate in thoroughfares not more than 80 feet in width, it cannot be logically maintained that this is an adequate height in streets of greater width than 80 feet, or in positions where buildings face open spaces such as Hyde Park and the Green Park, big squares such as Lincoln’s Inn Fields, or the riverside such as the Thames Embankment.

The Act of 1894 is defective in so far as it is inelastic, and in view of the changed conditions which have arisen in the intervening quarter of a century, the time has arrived for a reconsideration of these restrictions. No loss of amenity would be experienced if buildings in such positions as facing the Bayswater Road, the Kensington Road, Park Lane, Piccadilly, Lincoln’s Inn Fields, or the Thames Embankment, were permitted to be carried to a greater height than the present 80 feet. In such suitable open situations, buildings should be permitted to a height of 150 to 200 feet. The amount of additional accommodation thus secured would be enormous, both for business and for residential purposes, and this relaxation of the Act would, in course of time, accomplish something substantial towards relieving the pressure for accommodation which is already so acutely felt in Central London,



quite apart from the benefit to be obtained from the additional revenue which would be secured from the largely increased assessments which would result from the higher buildings.

The present pressure of accommodation in Central London must go on increasing with the growth of its trade and its population and with its continued development as the world's centre of business and pleasure, and the problem of how to meet the demand can only be satisfied by adopting the same policy as has been adopted in such cities as New York—that is, by vertical development.

I was careful to point out that I was not suggesting the policy of “skyscrapers,” although so many of the American buildings are eloquent of the magnificent architectural results that can be obtained in this type of building, and I made this proviso: that, if it were feared that, under this proposed permissive extension of the terms of the Building Act, monstrosities might be erected, there could be a provision for the right of approval of the elevations being given to the London County Council, or, better still, to the long-overdue Ministry of Fine Arts. On a recent occasion, the First Commissioner of Works himself threw out a suggestion that the time is not far distant when this question might have to receive consideration.

This letter brought a reply from Mr. Andrew Taylor, the Vice-Chairman of the London County Council, who, in effect, expressed himself opposed to any change whatever. This was unfortunate, as we must necessarily look to the County Council for support before we can hope to carry this matter to a practical issue. Mr. Taylor's chief criticism was regarding the rear line of these proposed higher buildings, and I therefore pointed out, in my second letter to *The Times*, published therein on the 22nd January, that the question of the rear line was already met by the London Building Act of 1894, which, in the case of domestic buildings, defines the rear line as having to be kept within  $63\frac{1}{2}$  degrees above a height of 16 feet from the pavement level; while, with regard to the question of means of escape in case of fire, as to which Mr. Taylor was also anxious, the existing Act compels buildings over 60 feet above street level to make provision, by duplicate staircases and fire-resisting floors, for adequate means of escape in case of fire.

Central London, whether residential or commercial, is already full, while the demand for additional accommodation cannot be satisfied; and, in answering the further observations of Mr. Taylor as to the difference in the formation of the outline between London and New York, I pointed out that, although London may not have the physical features of Manhattan Island, the central area is as limited and as clearly defined as New York itself, and that the demand for accommodation in that limited area is just as clamant, and that the problem of satisfying this demand can only be solved, as New York's problem was solved, by building upwards, not in narrow thoroughfares, but in the numerous open positions which London offers for such development. The proposed change would enormously increase the rateable value of London, upon the security of which large loans could be raised by the Municipal Authorities, which could be applied either to the less wealthy districts, in the equalisation of rates, or to paying for the widening of those streets which are inadequate to bear their present traffic.

A strange thing now happened. I had been putting forward, with hesitation, the modest suggestion to permit buildings up to 200 feet high facing open spaces, when there appeared in *The Times* of the 23rd January, under the heading of “Skyscrapers for London,” a report of an address delivered by Sir Martin Conway before the London Society, in which he put forward the following daring suggestions:—

The only hope for London was that building widely should be stopped, and building higher resorted to. If he had his way, he would knock London down, acres at a time, he would leave large open spaces, and erect high buildings, he would lay the East End flat and set it upon end, he would build gigantic communal buildings 30 or 40 storeys in height, housing hundreds and possibly thousands of people.

I pointed out in the third letter which I then addressed to *The Times*, and which was printed in that paper on the 24th January, that there was a wide difference between the “skyscrapers” of 40 storeys advocated by Sir Martin Conway and the 200 feet buildings carried up 16 or 17 storeys

advocated by me, and I submitted that London is not yet ripe for "skyscrapers," although it is over-ripe for higher buildings than the present London Building Act allows.

It was a source of surprise that such a scheme should have been laid, without protest, before the London Society, a society whose main purpose is stated to be the beautification of London. I submitted that the demand to-day is for centralisation, and that there is no doubt that such centralisation would afford some relief to traffic, as there would be less people to bring in and out of town each day, while the increase in residential accommodation overlooking the parks would relieve the pressure on many of the outlying districts and accomplish something towards solving the housing problem.

The increased rating would be advantageous for securing municipal loans, which could be applied not only to street widening, but to the financing of housing schemes on the outskirts, while the new residential blocks would enjoy beautiful views and secure to their occupants ready access to the parks. Tall buildings on the Embankment north and south, the south being linked up to the West End by the new Charing Cross Bridge, would afford much-needed additional accommodation for residential and business purposes.

I took the opportunity of emphasising the fact that the development of Central London has not been adequately exploited, and that, if London is to hold its place as the world's centre, some such development as had been outlined by me would have to be speedily undertaken. Notwithstanding this explanation and protest, the impression got about that both Sir Martin Conway and I were advocating "Skyscrapers for London."

The very next day *The Pall Mall Gazette* had an adverse note on what it described as the "Skyscraping Campaign," while *The Star* spoke of a "City of beetling heights, Towers of Babel, and great cliffs of concrete," and generally the Press was so emphatically against "skyscrapers" that, for the time being, my proposal for merely higher buildings was threatened to be swamped, until Mr. Henry T. Hare, the late President of this Institute, reminded the public, in an interview with the representative of *The Evening Standard*, that "Mr. Delissa Joseph started the subject of 'Higher Buildings for London' before Sir Martin Conway."

Sir Martin himself announced that, although he wanted a building not less than 360 feet in height, he did not want "skyscrapers." But the real objection to Sir Martin Conway's scheme, quite apart from the question of height, is that it involves a process of destruction which would further involve a process of confiscation or lead to a long and tedious process of realisation, at great risk, after years of delay, of which process Kingsway is a striking example.

On the other hand, one sympathised with some of the views expressed by Sir Martin Conway at an interview he gave subsequent to his lecture, in which he said: "Let us make London a town in which people can live, and not one which they must live outside," and with his further view that we should try to be rid of the hideous crowds which the present system of transport creates at the beginning and at the end of the 8-hour day.

The details of labour-saving apparatus and the simplification of domestic life outlined by Sir Martin Conway can be equally applied to buildings of moderate height as to "skyscrapers." Sir Martin says it is the business of an architect to make beautiful whatever kind of building the needs of his day require, but I submit that in so doing he cannot afford to ignore the practical and financial probabilities of the problem with which he may have to deal.

Meantime other persons of eminence forwarded even more daring suggestions; for example, Capt. Swinton proposed that an increased height of buildings should be permitted, provided it was paid for at so much per foot of cubic air space. This fantastic idea need not be taken seriously, and is already provided for by the practical process of increased rates on increased heights. Lord Montagu offered his blessing to Sir Martin Conway's proposals, and added a touch of fantasy by advocating the provision of aerodromes on the tops of the "skyscrapers." The suggestion of Mr. John Hopkins, M.P., that, in a typical area of 50 acres, 10 acres only should be covered with high

buildings, and that 40 acres should be laid out for playgrounds, is obviously impracticable, because, as a financial operation, it would involve a confiscation of 40 acres of private property. On the other hand, one of the happiest phrases which this discussion has produced was employed by Mr. Hopkins, in his letter to *The Times* of the 27th January, where he reminds us that "the electric lift is, in effect, the cheapest and quickest way of taking the workman home." The very moderate claim for higher buildings for London can only be endangered by the more unrestrained proposals which have since been put forward. Meanwhile Sir David Burnett, a former Lord Mayor of London, and one of the greatest authorities on London property, in the course of an interview published by *The Daily Telegraph* on 28th January, said :—

At the present time the height of City buildings is limited to 80 feet, but he saw no reason why, at specially wide places such as the foot of London Bridge and other roomy spots, special arrangements should not be made for the raising of the building height limit to at least 160 feet ; that would give a 10 or 12 storey structure and greatly relieve the pressure on the surrounding premises. There could be no objection to buildings of that height, but he would strongly oppose skyscrapers.

Incidentally, Sir David Burnett made the following interesting comment, which supports my view that London is at present under-developed :—

What an awful waste of useful space was to be witnessed at the Bank of England ! If that building were raised considerably, not only would its architectural dignity be greatly enhanced, but the additional erection would provide housing room for five or six large banks.

After the first shock, one found a more sympathetic attitude on the part of the Press, and perhaps one of the most interesting views was that contained in a leading article in *The Times* of the 24th January :—

It is all a question of what the eye is used to. To most of us the first pneumatic tyres seemed to be fat and ugly monstrosities, after the narrow wheel rims of the primitive bicycle and motor-cars to which we were accustomed. Now it is all the other way. And so with height. There is nothing in it that is inherently ugly, and it may be a thing of real and satisfying beauty.

The change of view which began to make itself felt was shown by the fact that *The Evening News* discovered that it was about time that "London grew up" and offered a welcome to what it described as "Adastral Houses."

A writer in *The Daily News* pointed out that London has an area of 600 miles and a population of 7 millions, giving an average of only about 18 persons to the acre, as compared with the garden city ideal of 40, on the basis of 8 houses to the acre, each housing 5 individuals. This was to show the inadequate development which has been attained in London, and the writer went on to point out that the increase in ground values in London would soon make it unremunerative to build except to increased heights.

Independent confirmation of this was afforded by a recent statement in the House of Commons by Sir A. Griffith Boscawen, who, in reply to a question as to whether greater height would be permitted in the rebuilding of Regent Street than the height of the old buildings, replied that, in order to justify the increased ground rents which were to be secured for the sites, greater heights would be allowed. These heights, by the way, will be the Building Act heights of 80 feet and two roof storeys, the width of the street being about 82 feet.

Another writer said :—

It is important for the city that its men of mark, its men of taste, and its students should dwell in its midst in some concentration and not be so widely scattered that their power to leaven the lump is lost . . . The people of a great town ought to live in it comfortably, not merely move in it, and to and from it, in daily deliriums of speed and congestion. . . . To-day London is, for millions, habitable only at the cost of endless fever and fret.

The desire to get out of London is not universal. It was Dr. Johnson who said that "The man who is tired of London is tired of life."

Another writer has well said that a return is needed to the idea of "London for Londoners." The question was unexpectedly referred to in a recent address delivered by Professor Simpson

at the Bartlett School of Architecture, when he went so far as to say that he did not agree that "skyscrapers" detracted from the beauty of a town or spoilt its amenities. Indeed, he quoted the distant view of Oxford as an illustration of the beauty obtained by the spires of the churches and the towers of the public buildings rising above the other buildings. Professor Simpson, by the way, was daring enough to describe the dome of St. Paul's as a "skyscraper." On the other hand, he suggested that taller buildings should only be permitted in certain fixed positions in each street. This would not work, as it would naturally be objected to by those landowners who were not allowed similar privileges in the same street. This difficulty, it was suggested, could be met by payment for each additional storey, but this is only another form of assessment for increased height, and would still leave an unjust differentiation between different tenants in the same street.

Professor Simpson suggested that a "skyscraper" might be permitted in the centre of the Aldwych site, which would form a fine ending to Kingsway, an idea which must have occurred before now to many of us.

In considering the case for higher buildings for London, it would be well to give the exact words of the present Act, as follows:—

A building (not being a church or chapel) shall not be erected of, or be subsequently increased to, a greater height than 80 feet (exclusive of two storeys in the roof and of ornamental towers, turrets, or other architectural features or decorations) without the consent of the Council. (Part V., Sec. 47.)

The present limit of height is thus 80 feet and two storeys in the roof, and, however wide a thoroughfare may be, or however open may be the outlook of a building, no greater height can be allowed. The 200 feet buildings which I advocate I am proposing should be permitted only facing parks, the river, and large open spaces, but there is no reason why this idea should not be extended to give a right to increase the height of a building beyond 80 feet to the extent of one foot in height for every additional foot in the width of the street beyond 80 feet.

These 200 feet buildings would give approximately 16 or 17 storeys above the street level, and represent a height equal to about the height of the Monument. They would be modest structures compared with the buildings of 36 storeys suggested by Sir Martin Conway, or with the American "skyscrapers" rising from 40 storeys to the 57 storeys of the Woolworth building, which, by the way, has been aptly described as a "Cathedral of Commerce."

It should be clear from what has already been said that I am not advocating "skyscrapers," nor schemes for costly clearances, nor have I any royal road to offer for the solution of the problem of the under-development of London. I only advocate that, by making the Building Act more elastic, owners of property may, in suitable situations, be enabled to develop their land, from time to time, as the leases fall in, to an adequate height, and thus gradually to relieve the pressure of accommodation in London. At the same time I suggest that the largely increased rateable value which would result could be capitalised and applied in the widening of congested thoroughfares. We should bear in mind that, whilst in the City of London street improvements have been largely paid for from the funds of the Bridge House Estates, there is no such fund available for the widening of streets in other parts of London, and therefore this scheme for higher buildings would offer a new available source for the production of the necessary capital for such public improvements. The other uses of such funds which obviously suggest themselves are the further equalisation of rates in the poorer boroughs, and the financing of housing schemes in the outskirts.

Although I have, so far, dealt with the question of the pressure of accommodation for commercial and residential purposes in Central London, there is no reason why the programme advocated should not be carried further afield and applied to the existing main routes leading out of Central London to the four points of the compass, nor why similar advantages should not be taken for adequate development round the numerous commons and open spaces within easy reach of the centre. Kennington Park and Clapham Common at once suggest themselves as illustrations of inadequately

utilised building frontages. Then in London itself we have opportunities of increasing the height of buildings to a height equal to the maximum width of the street itself, as, for example, in Portland Place which, being 125 feet wide, would permit of buildings 125 feet high. In the northern end of the City Road we have a width of 130 feet; in the widest part of the Euston Road a width of 160 feet between the houses; Marylebone Road for a part of its length about 120 feet, Whitechapel High Street about 100 feet, Mile End Road 145 feet, and Clapham Road from 130 to 150 feet, so that if, in cases like this, the Act would allow new buildings to be equal only to the width of the street, it would enable structures from 100 to 160 feet in height to be erected within the angle of 45 degrees from the opposite building.

It is obvious, for instance, that an adequate development of, say, the Clapham Road with buildings of 130 to 150 feet on either side would offer additional accommodation for thousands of persons within a comparatively few minutes of the City and the West End who, at present, have to travel many miles to and from their work; while the possibilities for business premises afforded in Euston Road by carrying the buildings 160 feet in height would immediately appeal to the numerous commercial undertakings which are now clamouring for space demanded for the adequate development of their businesses in the centre of London.

The case for building higher on the River Embankment is unanswerable, as is the case for building higher opposite open spaces; but in the heart of London there are some almost equally unanswerable cases when one realises a few figures like these: Adelaide Place, London Bridge (referred to by Sir David Burnett), 130 feet wide; Hanover Square, 280 feet wide; Trinity Square, 380 feet; Smithfield, 340 feet; Finsbury Square, 410 feet; Lincoln's Inn Fields, 645 feet.

The fear expressed by some writers as to the adequacy of the London strata for affording a foundation for buildings of 200 feet high is answered by the fact that the London clay is, in places, as deep as from 400 to 600 feet. The fear that some writers have expressed that high buildings would overshadow St. Paul's need not be considered seriously, as St. Paul's Churchyard is too narrow to receive higher buildings. It is a mistake to assume, as some people have, that business accommodation must necessarily be limited to the City. There is a tendency on the part of certain business concerns to go to the West Central or the West End. We already have the American Oil Company carrying on its business on the edge of St. James's Park, and the British-American Tobacco Company carrying on its business on the riverside, at Grosvenor Road.

There is an interesting precedent for exceeding the 80 feet in the case of the City of Manchester, where there are many buildings at least 110 feet in height, the local regulations, as I am informed by Mr. J. Swarbrick, being on the very generous lines that a building may be in height  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the width of the street in which it is situated.

There is a well-known illustration of higher buildings on the riverside in the case of the Royal Liver Building at Liverpool, which stands 170 feet above the level of the river bank, comprising 10 storeys, varying in height from 23 feet to 15 feet; and there are 5 storeys in addition, in the square of the towers, the total height to the top of the towers being 312 feet. For this information I am indebted to Mr. Aubrey Thomas, the architect of that splendid building, who also tells me he has erected the Tower Buildings to a height of 112 feet to top of parapet, with a tower rising to 153 feet, besides several other buildings to a height of over 100 feet.

In considering the question of housing more people in Central London, regard should be had to the fact that the saving of railway fares can be well applied to the increased rentals which will be required for central accommodation, quite apart from the saving of wear and tear attaching to the daily travelling, and the gain of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 hours a day of increased leisure.

In this connection I may quote *The Times* of 20th February upon the increased demand for central housing which would follow an increase in suburban railway fares: "Higher fares, in short, will be another argument in favour of 'Higher Buildings for London.'" As illustrating the crowded con-

ditions of London to-day one has only to regard the fact that double rentals are being paid for old premises, that high premiums are being paid for possession of residential suites, and that the increased rents demanded, in view of the increased cost of building, are being paid without question : all of these being clear evidences of the extent of the unsatisfied demand for business and residential accommodation.

Anyone moving about with his eyes open could point to many buildings, especially those facing open spaces, which are obviously inadequate to their opportunities, and visibly cry out to be raised.

The course suggested by me, as opposed to the course suggested by Sir Martin Conway, may be described as the "middle course." If London is to hold its place as the world's centre, some such development as I have ventured to indicate must be undertaken. I submit that the gradual development of London upon the lines indicated would, in fact, be of the nature of a piece of grandiose town planning.

Instead of these suggestions increasing the traffic problem, they should contribute to reducing it, as the more business and residential premises provided in central positions, the less traffic would result between the centre and the outskirts, at the same time materially helping the housing problem and relieving the pressure at present existing in those outskirts.

London is full to overflowing, both in the business and residential quarters, and the demand for accommodation is completely unsatisfied. Building outwards will only increase the traffic problem, and building upwards, therefore, is the only solution, and, by the suggested upward building, a new rateable value would be established upon which municipal loans could be raised and be applied to the widening of congested thoroughfares in the inner metropolis. Here is an example of a practical scheme offering a gradual solution of the problem of the unsatisfied demand for business and residential premises in London, which must not be allowed to be obscured by impracticable suggestions such as have been put forward in the course of the discussion.

Nor need we be apprehensive as to the result. Mr. Hilaire Belloc has said : "There is a Familiar Demon looking after London, who takes care that London shall never become unified or commonplace."

I trust I have now made out the case for a modification of the London Building Act so as to permit :—

- (1) Buildings up to 200 feet in height opposite parks, public gardens, open spaces and the riverside.
- (2) Buildings equal in height to the width of a street when that street is over 80 feet in width, provided that :

(a) The rear angle is within  $63\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  of 16 feet above pavement level.

(b) The structures are fire-resisting and fitted with staircases affording alternative means of escape, and

(c) The elevations have been approved by the London County Council or the hoped-for Ministry of Fine Arts.

I trust I have shown that the increased accommodation which the gradual development under these proposed relaxations of the Building Act would afford to an inadequately developed London would supply an urgent need ; that this development would afford a new and vast untapped source of assessment ; that this new assessment would form the security for large public loans, which could be applied for the widening of congested thoroughfares, the equalisation of rates, and the financing of municipal housing schemes ; and that all this could be accomplished without detriment to the beauty of London and without recourse to the "skyscraper," and that all these benefits to London and its inhabitants could be obtained by a couple of short Clauses added to the present Building Act. We must therefore look to our Council here to take the first steps towards realising the new conditions, and at the next Business Meeting I am moving a resolution to refer the question to the Council of this Institute with a request for them to take the necessary steps to bring about an alteration of the Building Act. The Council have themselves established a precedent by drafting a Bill to amend the Law of

Light and Air because it frustrates the development of London. Let them now draft a Bill to amend the London Building Act, so as to permit, with proper reservations and control, the erection in London of Higher Buildings.

## DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*, in the Chair.

The PRESIDENT said that it was no mere convention to say that Mr. Joseph had given them an extremely able paper. The Council of the Institute had already gone in advance of his suggestion and had set up a Committee to consider a reform of the Building Act, and he hoped the Committee would have the benefit of Mr. Joseph's assistance in their deliberations. He would ask Sir Martin Conway, whom they might look upon as holding extremist views upon the question of higher buildings, to move the vote of thanks, and he should ask their old friend Mr. Andrew Taylor, who, as Chairman of the Building Act Committee for some years, had no doubt conceived that respect for it which all who were responsible for its administration should feel, to second the motion as a useful corrective to the more advanced views of Sir Martin Conway.

Sir MARTIN CONWAY, M.P., said he had no specially advanced views about the matter. But when one wished to draw public attention to a particular question, it was as well to put it forward in a somewhat emphatic form. We are an extraordinarily conservative people; we like the things we have grown up amongst and are accustomed to. If London could have remained as it was when he was a boy, he should have liked it better than he did now; and if England could be again as it was a hundred years ago, it would be a better place than we had now made it. But we had to live in the world as it is, and things went on in it whether we liked them or not. The second time he went to America, after a twenty years' interval, he went with a prejudice in his mind against "sky-scrapers." But it took only one day in New York to convert him. He found the 30th floor of a tall building the rational place to live in; and he would not live lower down if he could help it. The rents were higher the higher one goes, because people prefer to live at a good height when they get the chance. They get out of the noise and dust and fog, and leave an enormous number of microbes down below; they get fresher air, they have fine views when the air is clear, and they have more light by day. Now, people said they want tall buildings, but not sky-scrapers. But what was the matter with the sky-scraper? Wasn't the Victoria Tower a sky-scraper? If they put flats in the Victoria Tower and lifts in one of the turrets, it was a sky-scraper. What, however, he was concerned about was this: he lived about thirty miles from London, in a charming piece of country, where there were very few houses. If they were thinking of going down there with their garden suburbs, he did

not want them. He wanted to keep London inside its present bloated circumference. London, it was said, would have ten million inhabitants before long. Where were they to be put? If into garden suburbs, it would take them a day's journey to get into the country. He was not thinking so much of people coming into London for business purposes, but people going into the country for a day's holiday, or for an evening. London would become so big that nobody could get out of it, except on an expedition. If London must have ten million people, then the people must live in high buildings; there was no alternative. He would give one instance of the pressure in the heart of London, and its injurious effect. The Bishop of London, he understood, had appointed a Commission to investigate the question of the union of parishes and benefices within the City of London, and the upshot was likely to be that twenty old City churches would be recommended to be demolished, their sites sold, and offices erected on those sites. The result of this horizontal pressure was that they could not afford to keep an old Wren church standing. When the value of land, owing to this pressure, became so tremendous that the population drifted out, there was nobody left to go to church in the City; with the clergy drawing salaries for doing nothing or very little, and somewhere else the clergy were poorly paid, but had to work very hard among their crowds of parishioners; the argument for selling these sites and demolishing the churches and building them somewhere else was very strong. But if they had housed the people in the same locality, in high buildings in the near neighbourhood of their work, there would not have been this extraordinary horizontal pressure below; it would have been replaced by a vertical uplift, and they would be able to preserve their ancient monuments; they would also be able to preserve the amenities, the wider spaces and the more generous thoroughfares, and might have made all kinds of changes which would have contributed to render the City more pleasant and more reputable to live in. He also wanted to prevent London spreading illimitably over the Home Counties. Whether the buildings were to be 200, or 500, or 1,000 feet high was a matter of indifference to him. But there was a certain height, which he might speak of as an economic height, up to which it was probably worth while to build, producing a maximum income at a minimum relative cost. But it did seem worth emphasising that if they built a large enough building, as high as



was economically right and as wide as they could possibly build it, a building large enough to hold such a number of people that there could be a kind of co-operative activity in it, a co-operative store, clubs, school, cinema, the whole business and pleasure of the community—that would be a desirable result. If such a scheme were properly thought out by practical people and well carried out, probably some five thousand, perhaps ten thousand, could live happily and contentedly in such a building, with a minimum of waste of money and energy and a maximum of efficiency; a community living in one building of the right height, in the heart of London, surrounded by a considerable amount of open space. By that means they could have, housed on the soil of London, surrounded by a sufficiency of open space, a very much larger population than it could carry at the present time. They would be better housed, and better equipped, and better served in every kind of way. And then all this difficulty in regard to transit, etc., would be considerably reduced, if not entirely avoided. Those were, roughly, the suggestions he made, and he thought he was very much of one mind with Mr. Joseph on the subject. They were all agreed that Mr. Joseph had put before the meeting a number of most interesting points of view, and had worked them out in great detail, with admirable balance of mind and practical sense; it therefore gave him the greatest pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to him.

Mr. ANDREW T. TAYLOR [*R.F.*], late Vice-Chairman, London County Council, said that he was frankly in opposition to the opinions which had so far been put forward at the Meeting. He came before them in a three-fold capacity. First of all, as a member of the London County Council, he had had a long experience of the Building Acts, and of the Improvement Committees, of both of which he had been Chairman for several years, and therefore he claimed to have some knowledge of this question. Secondly, as a Fellow of the Institute, he was interested in all architectural questions. Thirdly, he gave place to none in his love for London and desire for its beautification and improvement. Therefore, whatever would lend itself to the beautification of London and its improvement—whether it cut across his own prejudices or not—he should be glad to avail himself of. But it was because he did not think, in his heart and soul, that the propositions propounded that evening would be for the beautification and improvement of London that he was present to oppose them. Both the paper and, necessarily, Sir Martin Conway's speech were somewhat sketchy, because it was impossible within the limits of an ordinary paper to go into much detail. Young architects would know how easy it was to produce a beautiful coloured sketch, they would not trouble about details of construction and difficulties arising therefrom; it was only in the working drawings, with their full details, that the difficulties begin. He proposed to bring

this subject down to the working drawings and full-size plans and test the difficulties. They must take off their coats and tackle the problem in their shirt-sleeves, and not approach it in any dilettante fashion. They must get down to the heart of things, because it was of the first importance at that moment. They had been told that a Committee had been appointed to consider this matter, and therefore a false step would be disastrous in its effects on London, for they could not step backwards when once they had made the move. There was, first, the consideration of the æsthetic and artistic side. He had had the privilege of visiting New York three or four dozen times; though he had not been there for some years now, he had still before him the vision of some of the church spires of the city. At the head of Wall Street there was the spire of Trinity Church, one of the most beautiful in New York, flanked by tall buildings rising some hundred feet above the spire, knocking it out of the view and destroying its beauty. There was another church with a spire in Madison Square, where, almost touching it, is a building which rises at least a hundred feet above the spire. If it were not so pathetic, the view of that spire would be ludicrous; the only thing they could do was to pull it down as quickly as possible, for it looked ridiculous to see a building a hundred feet above the church spire. If those buildings were to be introduced into the City of London, it would be a great pity. There was no finer view in any city in the world than that which they got of London when sailing up the Thames towards Westminster. There was a certain proportion about the buildings of London, punctuated with Wren's towers and spires and dominated, like a prince among his people, by the dome of St. Paul's; it formed a beautiful picture which, he was sure, none would want to spoil. Imagine towers to a height of 200 feet or 400 feet, as Sir Martin Conway wanted, in the City; though these were not towers, because there must be party walls on each side—great blank walls. Put a building of that sort alongside Bow Church, or one of the other beautiful spires which are our pride; could anything be imagined more destructive of the beauty of London? A second consideration was this. Not a word had been said about the effect of such a development on the family and on the child life of the people. The whole argument of Mr. Joseph was that those high buildings in Central London would be for residential as well as office purposes. His own impression was that those high buildings in America which Sir Martin Conway so much admired were office buildings, but he spoke as if people's homes were in them. The Woolworth Building and the high buildings in Lower Broadway were entirely office buildings; he knew of none which were purely residential. His whole argument was that those high buildings for London would be both offices and residential buildings; otherwise Mr. Joseph's argument fell to the ground, because he said if these high residential build-

ings were put up, they would relieve the traffic chaos and the great traffic pressure morning and evening. His idea was that people who worked in offices would also live there. If it were not so, the erection of buildings 200 feet high would merely mean that instead of a hundred clerks being in a building as now, there would be a thousand, so that it would accentuate the traffic problem. Think what residences there meant: think what it would mean to put old ladies and children on the 16th or the 17th storey. It would be reversing the whole trend of our housing ideas to-day. (Hear, hear.) Organised Labour was against such a proposition: they said they would not go on living in barracks of six and seven storeys, such as existed to-day: what would it be if we had buildings 16 and 17 storeys high? What would it be to have children there? How would they get out to play, or otherwise exercise themselves? Sir Martin Conway said it was the natural way to live. He had yet to learn that primitive races lived 200 feet above the ground. It was not the natural way for London, at all events. A man craved for his little cottage and garden attached where he could grow his own vegetables and cultivate flowers. That was the natural way of living. Consider it practically: take a building 17 or 18 storeys high: imagine four or five families on each storey. How would they get out and in? By the electric elevator. We have had experience of elevators. We all know that they go wrong, and very often. It would be essential to have two or three elevators, one to supplement the other. But it was possible for all of them to go wrong if the electric current, for some reason, were turned off. What would be the result? Imagine having to climb 400 steps to get home! Again, suppose a fire took place in one of the lower storeys. The elevator shafts and the staircases formed vents for drawing up the asphyxiating smoke, and the only way of escape would be by the outside iron staircase. Imagine such an event happening on a dark winter night, with the steps covered with snow and ice: imagine having to get old ladies and young children down 400 steps in those circumstances! The loss of life would be appalling. It must be remembered that the Fire Brigade could not tackle that sort of thing. The highest ladder they had was but 92 feet long, and water pressure was not more than enough to throw an effectual jet 100 feet high. How could a fire be put out at the top of one of those buildings? It would have to be left to burn itself out. One further consideration, and a most important one: why did they not take full advantage of the present Acts before asking for such excessive further powers? (Hear, hear.) The present Acts permitted them to carry up buildings to an 80-foot cornice, with a height of 100 feet to the top of the roof. That meant a building of eight or nine storeys, if desired. How many houses in London were of that height now? In the greater part of Central London there were streets and streets of buildings not more

than four or five storeys high. Why not raise those buildings first? By that means they would double the present accommodation, and double the rateable value, a point which Mr. Joseph laid stress upon. However much he differed from the views set forth by Mr. Joseph, nothing but good could come of a free and full discussion, and he was at one with Sir Martin Conway in wishing that a cordial vote of thanks be tendered to him, and he had great pleasure in seconding it.

Mr. JOHN HOPKINS, M.P., said he concurred heartily with the views Mr. Joseph had expressed, and with his recommendations. In alluding to the letter he (the speaker) had written to *The Times* on the subject, Mr. Joseph had a little misinterpreted the meaning. The speaker had suggested that that large site of 50 acres of slum buildings in St. Pancras should be rebuilt with high buildings, occupying, possibly, ten acres, leaving the other 40 acres open space. He (the speaker) did not mean to confiscate the forty acres, any more than a person might buy two or three tumble-down houses and pull them down so as to build a house in the middle occupying the site of the former two, utilising the remainder of the site as a garden. He proposed that ten acres should be used for building, putting the buildings up so high that they could accommodate all the people who now lived on fifty acres, and more people even, and give them light and air and good accommodation in place of the ugly slum houses they now live in. But he was afraid that it would not be done. He had no doubt architects would be busy with their pencils redesigning those long dreary narrow avenues of brick buildings, two or three-storey houses, built on the same old building line. There might be a little better accommodation inside than in the old ones, but that was not a radical cure of the difficulties of housing in London. The scheme which Mr. Joseph was proposing would, he thought, go a long way towards effecting a cure of the transport and London traffic problem, because if these high buildings were permitted, the authorities could insist on the owner's moving his front back, so as to make wider streets. He could see, however, that Mr. Joseph and the Institute Committee would have great difficulties to encounter. Mr. Taylor had expressed the most crusted conservative view ("No") of the London County Council. In a general way he (the speaker) was a Conservative himself, but he could not compete for a moment with Mr. Taylor. The London Building Bye-laws, as he understood them, had always been interesting for anyone who was concerned with antiquities. He had been told that at one time the Building Bye-laws insisted that although the whole weight of the building was carried on steel stanchions, the wall must still be as thick as if there were no steel stanchions. When Mr. Taylor was in New York he must have been so deeply concerned with the fate of the spires of the churches that he forgot to observe that none of the high buildings there had a blank wall

on any side of them, because light and air were wanted on all sides, and the owner took care to get a site big enough to secure that. He had no doubt the same sort of thing would happen in London. They would not need to build skyscrapers. Buildings might be allowed to go up to a height of 200 feet, but only on frontages and rears where there was plenty of space, without crowding, and without shutting out light and air. Cumberland Market, St. Pancras, was an enormous square, and it was stated that the Commissioners of Woods and Forests were proposing to pull down the old leasehold houses and to rebuild around the whole of that magnificent open space working men's dwellings of three storeys high. He thought this a lamentable lost opportunity. He could understand the working classes objecting to lifeless "barracks" such as had been built for them in London. But those buildings need not necessarily be ugly and inconvenient; they could be made comfortable and sightly. If the promises made to the electors at the last Election that they should have houses fit to live in are to be fulfilled, the only way is to house them in large blocks. Central heating, continuous hot-water service, and such things cannot be supplied in separate houses, built eight to the acre. But they can be given, and cheaply, in high buildings, and a proper service of lifts could be supplied. As for lifts breaking down, and the difficulties in connection with putting out fires, all these difficulties had been got over. Lifts were arranged which did not break down, lifts supplied by current from different sources, so that if one supply failed, other sources were available. There were such things as electric pumps, and tanks on the top of the higher buildings for putting out fires. It was idle to say that these high buildings were impracticable or impossible, because other countries had proved that they were not, and with the increasing population of London, and the increasing difficulties of transport, he did hope that the Institute would be successful in securing a modification of the London Building Laws.

Mr. R. W. GRANVILLE-SMITH, Chairman of the Improvements Committee, L.C.C., said he esteemed it a privilege to be allowed to utter a few words on behalf of London, which he believed was seriously menaced that evening. If the last speaker considered Mr. Taylor an arch-Tory, Spring Gardens looked upon him as the pioneer of all that was up-to-date. Mr. Joseph had presented them with an extraordinarily interesting paper. Yet in the very manner of the presentation of his case he had provided a stone with which he could be attacked. Sir Martin Conway and others were out for higher buildings pure and simple, and, at all events, they were consistent; but in the case of the lecturer, did he not give his case away when he declared he would not have these placed anywhere in London, but only in districts where the dwellers already have the advantage of wide, open spaces? They were only to be erected on the borders of our

beautiful river, and on the confines of our noble open spaces, or our widest streets; only there were the people to have what Sir Martin Conway considered the great joy of living at a high altitude. Would Mr. Joseph hem in those open spaces like Finsbury Square, in the midst of such a crowded and busy district? What about the other people who were debarred from going up so high to live? Surely this idea furnished the negation to his whole argument. Were there an argument in favour of sky-scrappers, he should, in developing that theory, say—throw down London, fifty acres at a time, perhaps, and put up sky-scrappers, leaving a certain space in between. That would be the only way. But obviously that is not practical politics; we have to deal with the problems of the hour and with the buildings which exist. He protested with all his heart against any such scheme as the lecturer proposed. The London County Council had no small business with the London working man, and no small part of the hours spent at Spring Gardens was devoted to his interests, his home, his general well-being. They had endeavoured to find out what the working man really wished. One here and there might have some strange longing for central heating and central hot-water supplies, some may have spent their evenings in institutes where they were taught these things, but what the majority with children cared for and loved is a plot of ground which they can cultivate as their own. This, more than anything, was calculated to make a good, contented and happy England. Let Londoners occupy more space than at the present time, do not crowd them together so that they almost breathed into each other's mouths: let them be on the soil so that they could enjoy the earth and its produce.

The PRESIDENT: We have enjoyed a very spirited rally; we have heard the great guns booming at very close range. I shall now ask you to listen for a few moments to the gentle voice of peace, the voice of the arts. I shall ask our Honorary Associate, Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, of the Royal Academy, to say a few words about this subject from the painter's point of view.

Mr. SOLOMON J. SOLOMON, R.A. [*Hon. A.*], said he did not know that the painter's point of view would differ very much from that of the man in the street, and he felt very diffident about speaking on this subject in the presence of architects. When he heard Mr. Joseph's Paper he thought he was solving the problems of housing and congestion of traffic, and that point of view was strengthened by Sir Martin Conway. But when he heard Mr. Taylor he wobbled, only to wobble once again when Mr. Hopkins spoke, and now he was not sure that he had any very definite opinions left. The correspondence in *The Times*, to which Mr. Joseph and Sir Martin Conway contributed, had given Londoners food for thought in their walks through the town. Sometimes one had stood in the middle of the Park and looked round to see what

could be done there without spoiling the amenities of London. As a painter, he thought nothing should be done which would rob London in any way of its small share of sunlight: any raising of the general level of sky-line would have a depressing effect. But there were, or could be, some opportunities afforded in London, round the parks; and in trying to visualise what the Park would look like with the sky-line raised he concluded that they could not go beyond twelve storeys. But there were positions where a fine, well-designed building might be raised which would add something of that architectural interest to London which a cathedral pile produced. Such buildings would have to be on the south side of the Park, so that their shadows would fall on the Park itself, not on the surrounding buildings. If such were erected on the north side, a clearance would have to be made, because it would be impossible to live in the constant shadow of high buildings. The other day, while crossing the railway bridge at Kilburn, he had this problem in mind, and it occurred to him that along this railway, running from Broad Street to Ealing, 50 or 100 yards across, with gardens running down to those lines, they might on the south side have fairly high buildings casting their shadows on the line, and not on the other houses. The inhabitants would be living near stations and would have an easy means of reaching the City. In this way housing could be connected with the traffic problem. One might take that further in regard to the Thames. High buildings could be built on its south bank, so that their shadows would fall on the water: within the City area, offices above the wharves and warehouses. And if this sort of thing were to extend east and west, large numbers of people could be accommodated in high buildings on the banks of the Thames, and this would encourage the provision of a fleet of motor boats, which would take the residents from their homes to the City, thus making use of this neglected highway. The Thames passenger boats were stopped because people lived too far from the river. If people were brought to the river there would be a demand for river traffic which would do much to relieve the congestion in the main arteries. That was an individual point of view, and he wished to thank Mr. Joseph for having contributed such an interesting paper.

Professor BERESFORD PITE [F.] said there was an important matter which he was surprised Mr. Joseph had not referred to. The raising of business premises, premises which were subdivided in cubic extent by the 250,000 cubic feet, was the real difficulty which should be faced. The height of those premises, when they were within the limits imposed by the Act, was 60 feet. That was where the shoe pinched. Did Mr. Joseph realise that? He (Professor Pite) suggested that that limit ought to be removed. It was an impracticable limit in these days. But in his opinion that limit ought not to be increased beyond the limit fixed by the other clauses

of the Act—viz., 80 feet and two storeys in the roof. But the relief which would be afforded to architects of commercial buildings on the removal of the 60-foot limit and the substitution of a general limit would be a very material contribution to the problem of congestion in business quarters. And he thought the profession should ask for that, in the interests of London buildings. It was very present in the problems of Regent Street, in the rebuilding of large shops. He hoped they should carry Mr. Taylor with them in that matter. It was only necessary to point out that the London County Council had the power to insist upon adequate means of escape for their customers or employees on those premises, and that the hard-and-fast limit imposed by the Act of 1894 could very well be reconsidered in view of present circumstances. If the Fire Brigade could deal with a dwelling-house up to 100 feet in height, it could deal with commercial premises up to 100 feet. There were many ideas and suggestions in Mr. Joseph's paper, but there was not a single argument based on a real apprehension of the facts in favour of raising the limit for buildings. It was nonsense to talk about raising the front of the building unless one took into account that the sides and the back must be raised as well. It was deluding the public and the Press to talk about putting up buildings 200 feet high facing the Park or a wide street or the river, without mentioning the fact that the backs of those buildings were also 200 feet in height, and should be, on Mr. Joseph's own showing, 250 feet away from the nearest building. It was a pity that serious problems connected with the housing of the population of London should be discussed in that way. They knew Sir Martin Conway's powers as an essayist: they knew he was an eminent mountaineer; but they did not want him mountaineering in London—London was not the place for it. The question was too serious to be trifled with in that way. The main problem of the height of buildings in London was the housing problem—not the commercial problem: commercial men could look after themselves. It was evident, too, that the office problem would solve itself. Insurance companies were putting their premises outside London, because accommodation there was cheaper. And the Government were doing the same. Housing and transport were the urgent problems. With regard to housing, it was all very well to talk about top floors thirty storeys up, but the tenant of the 30th storey would have 29 storeys underneath him. Would they build for the comfort and delight of the luxury class who could pay high rents for high buildings, and ignore the poorer class? Would they create a London for mountaineers, for mountain dwellers, and ignore the caves? Think how they would increase the shadows of London life, how they would increase the gloom of existence, lengthening out the nights with their high abominations. Was it contemplated to construct high buildings with only external lighting, with no internal areas? The idea was pestilential—

retrograde was not the word for it. Mr. Joseph had not faced the matter; he had not considered this housing question, which went to the root of London life. He (Professor Pite) was a born Londoner, and looked with pleasure and comfort on the low buildings of London. When one travelled out of London by the Great Eastern Railway one went through miles of districts which the superior people called squalid. Look down upon the Tredegar Estate. Each house was a home, an Englishman's castle, and each represented a vote. The sweet idea that every one represented a home was convincing that the health and happiness of London, which was marvellous as it stood to-day, was due to its low buildings. He had had the pleasure of a good deal of conference with Mr. Burns about housing and town planning. He said he had had sent him the statistics of pulmonary disease in Paris, and they were perfectly alarming in the districts in which the buildings were high as compared with the districts on the outskirts where the houses were low. He was content to leave that suggestion to those who favoured high buildings for housing purposes in London; they should consider the pulmonary statistics before they induced the public to take one step further in this stupid, retrograde, daily Press balloon expedition after high houses, which no serious-minded person wants. What was wanted was an amelioration of the 60-foot limit. On no account must the 80-foot and two storeys in the roof above that be altered, in the interests of architects or of anybody else.

Professor S. D. ADSHEAD [*F.*] said he had never heard of a balloon being so ably exploded as this had been, nor one from which so much gas had escaped. The amount of picturesque nonsense which had been talked about high buildings that evening was unworthy of them. Whilst they would agree with Mr. Solomon that a certain number of high buildings might be put up on island sites and on the southern side of large open spaces, it was utterly absurd for them to talk seriously about high buildings settling the housing question. What all advanced people were thinking about to-day was either housing schemes in the suburbs or satellite towns. One point he would like to mention as Mr. Taylor was present, it occurred to him while walking along Kingsway to-day. Did he realise the effect of the bye-law which provided that the height of the building should not exceed 80 feet with two storeys in the roof? The effect was 20 feet of confused building on top. That bye-law must be made more amenable to the requirements aimed at, which he assumed was the artistic amenity as well as light and air. It had resulted in a discreditable two storeys erected vertically with every kind of material, completely obliterating the 80-foot-high cornice below.

Mr. W. J. H. LEVERTON [*Licentiate*] said that Mr. Joseph was wrong in saying that at the dinner of the London Society no opposition was made to the idea he put forward. Father Bernard Vaughan

opposed it, and followed that up by a letter to *The Times* in which he said that though there were plenty of high buildings in New York, plenty of villas rising out of grass plots could be seen.

A MEMBER observed that much of the want of elevation of London buildings was due to the fear of actions being brought against the owner, and until that was remedied there was not likely to be much raising of buildings beyond the 80 feet height. He understood that the Bill which the Institute had put forward on the subject perpetuated all existing rights. He thought the law concerning the rights of light in England ought to be swept away altogether. They would not be able to build satisfactorily until that had been done.

Mr. GEORGE HUBBARD, F.S.A. [*F.*], pointed out that the death-rate went up in direct proportion to the density of population to the acre. If Mr. Joseph's view was that pressure would be relieved by putting more people on to the same amount of land he ought to take that point into consideration.

Mr. WALTER REYNOLDS (Chairman, Building Acts Committee, L.C.C.) said that his object in coming to the meeting was to bring himself, in as many respects as possible, up to date with the wishes and ideas of the architects of London. He must say that he had never spent a more enjoyable evening. He had been more amused than if he had been at a play to hear the clash of opinion on one side and on the other. And he confessed, with Mr. Solomon, that he wobbled, and was still wobbling. He wished to speak on what he considered to be the crucial point of all on the question of erecting higher buildings than were at present allowed. Only that day there had been an enquiry set on foot concerning the 60-feet limit, and his Committee would try to bring some comfort on that matter. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the height of buildings in America, it seemed that the analogy had been made in order that the traffic and housing problems might be solved at the same time by going higher into the air. It seemed to be the only alternative in order to keep the population within the limits of London proper. It was very ingenious. He had been to America many times, and had lived in very high buildings there. It was true that the higher one lived, the more one had to pay, because in the upper storeys there was more light and air. It was argued that the only way in which we could deal with the housing and the traffic problems at the same time, and so do away with the long daily journeys, was to have higher buildings. But was that practicable? If we did that, we were confronted with the horrible dangers of fire. That was the greatest problem architects had to solve. If ever higher buildings for London were decided upon, they would have to find out how to deal with them in case of fire. It was not enough to say a building must be fire-proof: there was no such thing. He remembered that the Grand Theatre, Islington, was twice put up with "fire-proof" construction and was twice

burnt down. Apparently all Europe was of the same opinion as the people of the British Isles on this question of the height of buildings. Last autumn he set on foot, for his own satisfaction, an enquiry as to the expediency of having higher buildings in the City of London. He found that the maximum height of buildings in Paris was 65 feet; in Berlin, 72 feet; in Vienna, 82 feet; in Rome, 78 feet. In New York there was no restriction as to height where the construction was absolutely fire-proof. In Boston, however, that "City of Culture," warehouses and stores must not exceed 100 feet in height. Yet those cities were only five hours distant from each other by rail. In Boston no building may exceed 125 feet in height. In Washington the maximum height must not exceed 130 feet, and of non-fireproof buildings, 75 feet. In Chicago the limit was 260 feet, but if any buildings were over 100 feet they must be so-called fireproof. In Cincinnati there was no restriction as to height. In Toronto it was 130 feet, in Montreal 120 feet. But even in New York there were limits set according to the situation of the building, the limit being fixed by the zones. In the "up-town" districts, the residential hotels and shopping buildings were much lower than the "down-town" buildings, the height being fixed by the average height of recent buildings. Down-town the same rule held, the average height of existing buildings being 500 feet. The Woolworth went to 57 storeys, and was 750 feet high. There was a lesson to be learnt from these high buildings. Between 1899 and 1912 there had been four serious fires in them, involving the loss of 230 lives. New York had, in certain areas, a system of high-pressure fire mains, in which the pressure could be raised to 300 lbs. per square inch. But even with this system and with all the resources they had got in America it was impossible to attack fires above a certain height. There they had a quality of fire hose which stood about six times the pressure of any hose we possessed. The question would be asked—why hadn't we got it? The answer was, that that hose was made in such a way that after about three months it perished, and if it did not happen to be new when required, it was of no use. Therefore they were not really better off in the matter of hose than we were. We already had the longest fire ladder in the world, over 82 feet in height, and with a portable ladder we could put ten feet on to the top of that, in that way nearly reaching the top of our 100-foot buildings. That was the limit of the inventions which had been brought into existence for combating fires, and this was got from Germany. We could not get a greater pressure of water in London, and if we tried to get the same pressure as they had in New York, it would cost untold millions, because it would mean the widening of streets to get the means of introducing the proper water pressure. He had had supplied to him a comparative table on the London Fire Brigade and the New York Fire Brigade. Mr. Joseph had put before them in an alluring way the

financial aspect of the heightening of buildings, stating that the money saved could be used for the widening of streets. But we had the counterbalancing view, for as he had already stated it would cost millions to adapt the fire-fighting appliances. He would now tell them what was the cost of the Fire Brigades in the two cities, New York, which had high buildings, and London, which had not. The population of London proper was about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  millions, that of New York about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  millions: but when the services of the Fire Brigade in outer London were considered, it was fair to say that, for this purpose, the populations of the two cities were about equal. To deal with fire risks, London had 1,254 men: New York, 5,194, some four times as many. London's Fire Brigade cost about £300,000 a year: New York's cost £1,850,000, that is, six times as much as ours. In 1914, 3,600 fires were attended to in London, and the damage was £500,000. But there were 14,500 fires in New York in the same year, causing damage to the extent of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  millions. And the same story went right through the statistics from year to year. That was the point one was up against: fires could not be dealt with at more than a certain height. There was a magnificent invention called the sprinkler, but if the water supply could not be made to reach the topmost sprinkler and 15 feet at least above it, it would be useless. He certainly thought the best suggestion for getting over the difficulties had been made by Mr. Taylor: let the Building Laws be made use of as they stand now, and put up buildings to the limit height of 100 feet. By this means we could house nearly all the daily ebbing and flowing population within London proper—the healthiest city in the world.

The PRESIDENT, in putting the vote of thanks, said he was not sure whether they ought not to add their thanks to those who had taken part in the discussion. He rarely remembered to have heard a more spirited and informing debate. With regard to Mr. Taylor's suggestion that the Building Acts should not be altered, the Institute was trying to help the County Council by setting up a Building Acts Committee, whose purpose would be to urge the extension of the County Council's discretionary powers. Mr. Taylor, however, terrified him with the suggestion that they should first of all raise the height of the houses in Bloomsbury Square. What a prospect! Were they to be reduced to this horrible principle of a  $45^{\circ}$  angle? Was every street to become what the Woods and Forests Commission wanted to make Regent Street? Were they no longer to have the magnificent amenities of Portland Place? Were all these buildings to be raised to a height of 80 feet? He hoped nothing of the kind would occur. But, on the other hand, there was the happy mean, which was always to be found, between people who wanted to build 47 storeys high, and the others who wanted to have only a 60-foot limit. And that was rather happily expressed by Sir Martin Conway when he spoke of an "economic



height." There was an economic height, and the County Council should have more power given them under the Acts to settle that height, because in certain positions buildings could be carried up with advantage to everybody to a greater height than now: while there were other positions in which we should regret to see them carried even to the 80-feet limit. He thought we should be content with the previous experience we had had of the past Chairman and the present Chairman of the Council's Building Act Committee, to give them a very much larger discretion in the matter than they were able to exercise now. One point which seemed to have escaped the various speakers until Mr. Walter Reynolds introduced it, was that of fire. He had quoted terrible statistics about the pressure of water, and the incapacity of the Fire Brigade to do all sorts of things. But he would point out that it was not the business of those who had to do with the buildings to follow the Fire Brigade: it was for the Fire Brigade to follow the building: and if they could not squirt water a couple of hundred feet above ground, it was time they found a way of doing it.

Mr. DELISSA JOSEPH, in responding, said he would like to take the opportunity of saying that he, in his turn, was very grateful to the President and Council for having given him this opportunity of laying his views before the Institute. Whatever differences of opinion there might be with regard to the practicability or the desirability of the scheme he had outlined, it had stimulated a remarkably interesting discussion, and he had been enormously entertained, in the best sense of that word, by listening to the speakers, though he could not attempt at that late hour to deal with the points raised. He could not help consoling himself with the thought that there must be something useful and practical in his suggestions, otherwise they would not have received so much constructive criticism.

Mr. W. R. DAVIDGE [A.], Housing Commissioner for London, writes:—

The discussion in connection with Mr. Joseph's interesting paper concentrated largely upon the example of New York and other American cities, and it may be of interest to the Institute to quote the opinion of the New York Authorities themselves upon the question.

The report of the Heights of Buildings Commission of New York, dated 23rd December, 1913, summarises the position as to heights of buildings not only in New York, but in practically all the large cities of the States, and it will be seen from the following extracts from such report that the skyscrapers to which such frequent reference is made form but a very small proportion of the buildings in New York, the greater proportion of such skyscrapers being concentrated in a comparatively small area in the Toe of Manhattan. The report states:—

"There are 92,749 buildings in Manhattan. The average building height in Manhattan is 4·8 storeys. Nine-tenths

of these buildings do not exceed a height of 6 storeys. The buildings over 10 storeys in height constitute only a little over 1 per cent. of the total. There are but 1,048 buildings over 10 storeys in height; 90 buildings over 17 storeys in height; 51 buildings over 20 storeys in height; and *only 9 buildings over 30 storeys in height.*

"Even on Broadway, below Chambers Street, more than one third of the frontage developed with private buildings has a height of not exceeding 6 storeys. Only one-sixth of the frontage is developed with buildings exceeding 20 storeys in height.

"A classification of buildings according to use reveals the fact that hotels, and not office buildings, possess the greatest average building height. Hotels have an average height of 8 storeys; department stores, 7·8 storeys, and office buildings 7 storeys. Factories have an average height of 5·9 storeys; stores and dwellings 5·3 storeys; dwellings 4·8 storeys; stores 4 storeys; and warehouses 3·9 storeys, but *of the 90 buildings over 17 storeys high 9 are factory buildings, 10 are hotels and 71 are office buildings.*

"The only direct limitation on the height of buildings in New York in 1913 was that restricting the height of apartment and tenement houses to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the width of the widest abutting street. There are, of course, other provisions in the building code, the city charter, the labour law, and the tenement law, that constitute a very real limitation on the height of buildings, but all of these are indirect limitations. The most important of these provisions are those regarding open spaces and fireproofing. A tenement house of more than 6 storeys in height must be fireproof. The highest tenement in the city, situated on Park Avenue, is 17 storeys high."

The above represents the position as it was when the Commission reported in 1913, but as a result of the above report of the Heights of Buildings Commission, the city of New York has now been divided into districts with varying but far greater restrictions as to height.

With regard to fire risk, the New York Commission state that:—

"The fact remains that tall buildings are not necessarily safe. The rooms are often filled with highly inflammable material. Unless doors are closed, fire may easily spread to other rooms. The draught up the chimney-like elevator wells may pull the flames across the corridor, and the flames, fed by the grease on the elevator guides, may be carried to upper floors. Under such conditions the danger of panic among the employees of the building would be very real, and the higher the building the greater the danger. The fire department cannot fight a fire from the outside more than 85 to 100 feet above the ground: above that they must rely on the standpipes in the building."

As to public health, the Commission point out that

"In areas where high buildings are crowded together, most of the rooms, even on the street front, are inadequately lighted, and many are decidedly dark. On New Street and Exchange Place, where the office buildings range from 10 to 22 storeys high, on a bright sunny day at noon in midsummer, it was found that in almost all of the street rooms artificial light was being used next to the windows. The conditions in the interior courts in parts of the tall building district are even worse."



From the economic point of view the Commission say :—

"Few skyscrapers pay large net returns. Most of them pay only moderate returns. The cost per cubic foot of tall buildings is greater than that for low buildings. All piping has to be made disproportionately heavier; special pumps and relays of tanks have to be provided; foundations often call for special construction, wind bracing assumes an important place, the extra space taken up by the express elevators is an additional cost. Thus, in the aggregate, the total cost per cubic foot of a very tall building may be 60 to 75 cents per cubic foot, where a low building of the same class would cost only 40 to 50 cents per cubic foot.

"The great item of waste in the high building is the big loss of valuable renting space on the lower floors, due to the dead run of the express elevators to the upper floors. The consensus of opinion among real estate men is that the height limit in Boston, instead of depreciating or retarding improvement of property, has been an unqualified success."

Mr. R. MILLBOURNE (of Messrs. John Barker & Co.) writes :—Whilst I do not entirely agree with the view held by Sir Martin Conway, I do not think Mr. Joseph has gone far enough with his proposals. Sooner or later, his suggestions will be out of date, and I am of opinion that the proposals to be laid before the London County Council should include the question of high buildings with excess cubical contents. At present a building exceeding 250,000 cubic feet is limited to 60 feet height to the surface of the uppermost storey, and for tall buildings to be used for business premises, such as large stores, this is quite inadequate. Even 80 feet with two floors in the roof would help, but it is not enough, and greater consideration must be given to this very important question of excess cubical contents, particularly also with reference to the 20,000 feet super as a maximum to each floor, and a cell cubical contents of 250,000 feet. To limit heights of store buildings to widths of roads, as suggested by Mr. Joseph, would to a great extent exclude a number of our principal thoroughfares for business purposes, and, after all, one of the strong points made by Mr. Joseph is the revenue which would be obtained from these great floor areas erected one over another. I am sure the question of fire fighting could be readily overcome, and even under Part 3 of the London County Council General Powers Act, 1908, the provisions made are so elastic that the London County Council Fire Section have the whole matter very much in their own hands. I am strongly of opinion that this subject should be taken up in an even stronger way than suggested under the headings 1 and 2 to be laid before the Council's Committee as suggested by Mr. Joseph.

Mr. J. CAMPBELL REID [*F.*] writes :—Whether a maximum height of 200 feet on special sites as advocated by Mr. Delissa Joseph is too great or too little is a subject for discussion, and one which certainly ought to be discussed. It was exceedingly gratifying, therefore, to learn from the President that a Committee of the R.I.B.A. Council has already been appointed to report on the matter. In this wise shall the Institute in due time take its proper place in the education of public opinion, which is, when all is said and done, the master of county and other councils.

But if the speeches of the representatives of the L.C.C. present were an indication of the soil on which the R.I.B.A. are obliged to sow their educational seed on matters architectural, the R.I.B.A. Council would seem to have an herculean task ahead of them. Both the Chairman and the ex-Chairman of the Building Acts Committee, the ex-Chairman himself an architect, suggested that in order to provide the additional floor space necessary for commercial and housing purposes, existing buildings should receive the requisite number of new storeys to bring them to the height specified in the Building Acts. What a wonderful opportunity for architects!—especially those who leave the architectural schools with the enthusiasm begotten of youth and sound and imaginative teaching in the design of modern buildings and respect for old ones. One dare not believe this represents the views of the majority of the L.C.C., or even of the Building Acts Committee, with regard to the modern development of London. It is mere pedantry to say that a high building *qua* high building is unsightly, or that the preservation of the scale of a church spire should prevent the height of any building being greater than 100 feet.

Nor was Professor Pite's sweeping assertion that the public are being misled in this question really serious criticism. The problems of light and air both at the front and the rear of high buildings can and will be solved. If sufficient height is permitted the necessary air space can often and without much difficulty be acquired.

As the President suggested in his able summing up of the discussion, there must be opportunities for reasonable modifications of the Building Acts; and no doubt the R.I.B.A. Committee will put forward definite proposals for the guidance of public opinion. Should it be found to be for the welfare of the dwellers and workers in London that higher buildings are desirable; then, subject to the necessary conditions of light and air, it will be the fascinating problem for architects to design those buildings with beauty and safety.

## REVIEWS.

## HELLENIC ARCHITECTURE.

*Hellenic Architecture: Its Genesis and Growth.* By Edward Bell, M.A., F.S.A., author of "*The Architecture of Ancient Egypt*." 80. Lond. 1920. 7s. 6d. net. [George Bell & Sons, Ltd.]

It is not at first sight obvious that a small octavo volume of 180 pages, dealing with the origins and growth of Hellenic Architecture, could throw fresh light on a subject which has been dealt with, in greater or less degree, in the more elaborate and specialised volumes which are quoted by the author. A little reflection, however, will show that there is some opening at the present date for a general survey of Greek architecture in relation to the Aegean civilisation which preceded it and apparently disappeared. This survey is what Mr. Bell has attempted, and on the whole he has done it well. After a short introductory chapter on "Prehistoric Greece," there are two longer chapters on Cretan and Mycenaean architecture, four chapters on the Dorians and their works, four chapters on Ionian architecture, one on the Corinthian Order, and a Summary.

The account of Cretan and Mycenaean architecture is generally sound, and is in many respects the most important part of the book. This is probably the first time in English that the true weight of Crete in the scale has been apprehended in dealing with the pre-Hellenic architecture of the mainland. Much of necessity remains unsaid in such a small compass, and it is pardonable if Mr. Bell is not yet aware of the whole output of Minoan craftsmanship, but he has diligently examined his sources and has given a good account of them. He rightly lays stress on the importance of the domical *tholos* tombs of Crete and the mainland, but does not mention the important "Isopata" tomb near Knossos.\* The obvious wooden (and probably constructive) origin of the ornament shown on pages 29 and 42 is not appreciated, and the somewhat lame conclusions of the footnote to page 42 need no further refutation than the illustration of the "temple fresco" on page 16, which is an actual representation of wooden construction built upon stone or gypsum blocks. It is not quite safe to give the impression that there was no attempt at fortification by the Cretan builders. Leading from this, it may be remarked that the fine masonry of many parts of the Cretan palaces and the orthostatic character of the external lower walls of the Middle Minoan structures at Knossos and Phaestos are hardly consistent with the argument that the cella wall of the existing "Heraion" at Olympia belongs to a later date than the foundations of the structure. In "Prehistoric Greece" Mr. Bell argues in favour of a Northern origin for the Mycenaean *megaron*, citing Troy II. and taking the ground that a similarity in plan may account for the translation of timber building into a structure completely executed in sun-dried

bricks, a traditional method in the Near East, and one that never penetrated into Northern Europe.\* The subject is perhaps too large to be discussed in a volume of this scope, and the value of Dr. MacKenzie's conclusions thereon can hardly be dismissed in a few sentences. His masterly analysis of the development of the Cretan Palace plan and its affinities remains the most valuable contribution to the subject that exists.

The chapter "Recapitulation—a Theory of Doric" deals generally with the causes which may have led to a departure from Aegean tradition. The reference to "the formal flat designs of Early Aegean art" must seem a dangerous generalisation when one considers the extraordinary measure of variation in the achievement of a great Art age, the full results of which have still to be manifested. In dealing with the origin of the Doric column, Mr. Bell takes the safe view that Aegean prototypes prevailed in the main, but that a certain amount of Egyptian influence may have drifted in. He makes a useful point in his remark that this influence probably acted at a time when it had ceased to have effect on contemporary Egyptian work. More light is wanted about the so-called "Mycenaean column from Eleusis" illustrated on page 51, and referred to in the footnote: it does not appear quite convincing.

As this is mainly a book on origins, it is not so important to consider in detail Mr. Bell's chapters on the culmination of Attic and Ionian building. They seem satisfactory generally. The value of the Ionian contribution is quite rightly realised, but that monumental side of it which found its fullest expression in the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus is insufficiently dealt with, except in its earliest forms, and neither the Mausoleum nor the Nereid Monument at Xanthos appears to be mentioned at all.

Taking everything into consideration, however, it may safely be said that Mr. Bell has produced a readable and generally trustworthy study of the European origins and growth of Hellenic architecture, and one which contains some really constructive work. As such it will be useful both to the student and to the general public. Some description or plan of Troy II. (the second city at Hissarlik), mentioned as analogous to Tiryns, might with advantage have been included, and the importance of the latest researches at Tiryns ought to have been explained. The index is obviously insufficient—in a work of this kind it should be an important feature. The last remarks in the book, which bring us in a single sentence from Hellenistic to Gothic architecture, seem to be irrelevant. The standard of the illustrations is good, though the rather meaningless profiles of capitals might have been omitted altogether, or else drawn as in relation to a whole capital.

In conclusion, it is to be noted that the author of the present volume has in preparation a work on "The

\* I am indebted to Dr. MacKenzie for pointing this out.—T. F.

\* Published by Quaritch, from *Archæologia*, 1906.

Pre-Hellenic Architecture of the Aegean." Such a work will undoubtedly have to be written, and Mr. Bell may be able to produce a useful volume on the subject, but it is bound to be premature until Sir Arthur Evans has published in final form the results of his great excavations at Knossos. This fact seems to be appreciated by Mr. Bell, if one may judge from the remarks in his preface.

THEODORE FYFE [F.].

## ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND CIVIC DESIGN, TECHNICAL COLLEGE, CARDIFF.

Opening Address by W. S. Purchon, M.A. [A.].

ONE of the most hopeful signs in architecture at the present time is the steadily growing interest in systematic professional education. For many years numbers of our best men—and if I mention Sir Aston Webb, Sir Reginald Blomfield, Mr. Ernest Newton and Mr. Paul Waterhouse it is with full knowledge that there have been and are many other eminent and earnest workers in the cause—have with great unselfishness and zeal given up much time, which they could only spare with great difficulty, in the attempt to secure adequate facilities for the training of the young men who are to be the architects of the future. The founding of a full-time School of Architecture and Civic Design in the Technical College at Cardiff, backed as it is by the fullest possible support of the South Wales Institute of Architects, is the latest example of the gratification of the desire of qualified architects to give the young student better opportunities than they themselves enjoyed.

The settling of the exact details of a scheme of architectural education is no easy task. It has been a subject of discussion for a very long time now, and at a recent meeting at the Royal Institute the discussion was at least as lively and as vigorous as ever. There are, in fact, almost as many views on the subject as there are persons who are interested in it, and perhaps, after all, this does more good than harm, so long as we get on with our educational work while the discussion proceeds.

More than once has it been suggested that there is so much that an architect *ought* to know that it is quite impossible for any one man to learn it all. On the other hand, if one selects any one subject—shall we say mathematics?—and suggests that the architect cannot spare time for it, one is promptly reminded that Sir Christopher Wren was by way of being something of a mathematician and also had time to carry out quite a considerable amount of architectural work of no mean order. Only a day or so ago I read in the latest number of *Discovery* that Sir Christopher in 1667 was conducting many new experiments and chiefly that of transfusing blood—the latter being brought to maturity with most beneficial results during the recent war.

It is clear, however, that architecture is not an easy subject—not a "soft option," as the Professor would say. The young man who takes up this profession should clearly understand that he will not complete his studies in either three or five years, but that if he is worth his salt he will go on learning until he retires from the profession—and possibly even after that. There is, in fact, no "short cut" to proficiency in architecture. I firmly believe in the necessity for building up surely and steadily from a sound foundation. Any attempt to dodge early studies and to essay without adequate preliminary preparation ambitious draughtsmanship and design, can only lead to ultimate delay before real success is achieved.

To continue, if I may, this confession of faith, I believe there should be some measure of freedom in our work;

that while all schools of architecture should strive to reach a high standard, and should deal seriously with certain fundamental subjects, they should not all combine to press every student through the same cast-iron mould. Without reasonable freedom the art cannot develop as it ought.

Neither am I a believer in any of the systematic schemes of proportion of which we have recently been reminded, and I do not feel that success can come from the mere slave-like devotion to a rigid set of principles. Much has been done, and more will doubtless be done, in the attempt to elucidate the mystery of beauty in architecture and in other great arts; and while a study of various theories which have been advanced is of value, it must not be forgotten that the touch of the artist is an individual thing.

The study of the work of past masters is of fundamental importance, and if we are wise we shall base our early efforts in design on their methods. The history of the past has shown the folly of throwing tradition to the winds, and it has also shown that archaeology is not architecture. In short, tradition is a good servant but a bad master.

The architecture of the past will be studied in this school not so much with the object of "lifting" details, but in order that we may understand the planning and construction—the general scheme of the buildings, their suitability to the special requirements of their purpose, place and time. We shall endeavour to appreciate the beauty and fitness of various types, and to judge to what extent buildings were successful solutions of definite problems. Not only shall we learn from previous successes, but also from previous mistakes. We shall study in fuller detail the work of the ancients and of the architects of the last few centuries, but I believe we shall also learn useful lessons from an outline study of the work of the Middle Ages.

I hope to be able to arrange, as I did in Sheffield, for the study on the spot of some of the fine examples of architecture to be found in such cities as London, Oxford, Cambridge, and Bath. There may be difficulties in the way; if so, it will be interesting to overcome them.

It is our intention to take up the study of construction seriously, including structural steel and ferro-concrete, with their application to architectural work. Much teaching of construction has got out of date, but we shall endeavour in our construction work to keep in touch with modern architectural design and to work as far as possible from actual examples. Tests of building materials will be carried out, and a course of special lectures will be given on the chemistry of building materials, while we are particularly fortunate in being so close to the actual building work in progress on the great National Museum of Wales.

Not only is it important that we should study fine old buildings—the acknowledged masterpieces of the past—but I think it equally important that we should study good modern work, of which several examples are available close at hand, this college being one of a group of modern buildings probably unequalled in the British Isles. Under this head we shall consider the special requirements of, and modern methods of planning, various types of buildings—cottages, larger houses, schools, hospitals, libraries, churches, etc.

The subject of sanitation will be dealt with in a broad manner. It includes questions of drainage, heating, lighting, ventilation and hot water supply, the proper arrangement of rooms, the provision of suitable open spaces, and the general disposition of buildings on the available sites. It is a subject which, rightly studied, has considerable influence on design. Our work in the latter subject will develop side by side with the various studies to which I have already referred, growing up gradually from studies of traditional work and of modern conditions, requirements and construction.

Draughtsmanship for architects is not an end in itself, but rather a means to an end. An architect is judged ultimately by his buildings, not by his drawings. It is better for a city to possess worthy and efficient buildings than for it to have a collection of brilliant drawings hanging

in inconvenient rooms in a building unsuited to modern needs. We may, of course, get both fine drawings and fine buildings, but we must not make the fatal mistake of thinking that a fashionable type of draughtsmanship—and various types have been fashionable in the recent past—can cover up bad planning or bad construction. Competitions, both for actual buildings and for students' work, are judged nowadays by professional assessors, who are able, or ought to be able, to see through the draughtsmanship and visualise the completed building. Do not misunderstand me: no one is a greater admirer of fine draughtsmanship than myself; but it must not be looked upon as the beginning and end of architecture. In this school we shall do "rendered" drawings in order to help the students to grasp their own designs, and we shall also do working drawings, remembering that the main object of these is the making of the architect's meaning clear to the builder. Some little time ago I saw a number of original working drawings from America; I think their completeness and clearness would have been a revelation to most of us.

Such subjects as specifications and professional practice can only be fully mastered by long experience, but I trust that in the school we shall be able to deal usefully with some of the main principles involved, and so lay a sound foundation for future work. As a matter of fact, this limitation applies in a greater or lesser degree to most of the work undertaken by the various schools of architecture.

With regard to the various courses of study which are now being settled, I do not think it necessary to-night to go into exact details. At such a meeting as this main principles are of greater importance than such statistics as the number of hours spent on each subject. I will, however, outline the courses broadly.

First, and I think rightly first, is a scheme of architectural education for ex-Service men. I am particularly glad that a number of these students have already joined, and I hope others will follow. Several have entered for a full-time course extending over periods varying from 1½ to 2½ years. The course is somewhat similar to the complete full-time course with which I shall deal presently, but as these men are older than the normal student, and have had previous experience, the course can be shortened and certain items omitted. Other ex-Service students who are receiving part of their training in architects' offices are coming to the school for a part-time course. I sincerely trust that all these men will, in after years, recollect with pleasure the time they spent in this college.

The part-time course, which consists of approved parts of the full-time course, is open to any student who has already started the study of architecture as a pupil in an architect's office, and a number of such students have already enrolled.

A scheme of evening classes, commencing next session, is also under consideration.

The full-time day course leading to a diploma—and I hope before long to a degree—is obviously the main work of a college school of architecture. The complete course will be of five years' duration, approximately the first half being a full-time course in the college, while the later part will be spent partly in architects' offices and partly in the college. It is felt that a student who takes such a course after receiving a good general education will at the end of the five years have acquired that combination of theoretical knowledge and practical experience which can alone give him a proper start in his professional career.

With regard to civic design, this subject will be dealt with to some extent in the later part of the full-time course in architecture; but it is also our intention to build up a complete course of instruction in this important work for those who wish to specialise in it.

By means of the Board of Architectural Education of the Royal Institute, and through other channels, this school will be kept in touch with the work which is being done in leading schools elsewhere, with which schools it is

hoped ours will presently be ranked. I fully realise that I have taken on a very big task, but the knowledge that I shall get the fullest possible support both from Principal Coles and other members of the college staff and also from the South Wales Institute and the Royal Institute, gives me every confidence.

In addition to the teaching of professional students I also hope to be able to help the great art of architecture in some small way by doing everything in my power, by means of lectures and other methods, to induce non-professional people to realize more fully that our art is not merely a matter of archæology, but that it is a living force of the greatest possible value to the community.

Two final words to the students. First, whether you are a student in the school or not, remember that I shall always be very glad to give you any advice and help that I can. Secondly, bear in mind that teachers can only do their best to guide you—it is you yourselves who really have to do the work.

10th April 1920

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Housing Exhibition at the Institute.

60, King Street, Manchester, 27th April 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—The following are extracts from Professor S. D. Adshead's criticism of the drawings relative to the work to be done at Manchester:—

"As an effort to obtain interest in the disposition of the houses their one objective has been the cul-de-sac. The new population is to be stalled in stables."

"One wonders whether the grid-iron scheme for the Wilbraham Road area is the serious effort of an uninformed expert or the enunciation of a principle set up in opposition to modern methods and modern thought."

Are these expressions such as should emanate from the Professor of Town Planning at the London University? Will they tend to increase our respect for that office, or will the reverse be the case, with a corresponding loss of dignity? Are they flippant attempts at wit to please the school of modern methods and modern thought? Will it be a right conclusion that only modern methods and modern thought are taught at the Professor's University?

The so-called grid-iron lay-out is evidently known to Professor Adshead, for he recognised the Wilbraham Road lay-out as a grid-iron scheme. Wherein lies any fault in any endeavour to continue a traditional practice which was, and in all probability will be, continued by the informed, not in any opposition to modern methods and modern thought, but because the majority of the informed who detest bare opinion cannot but accept the better principles of reasoned town planning. Professor Adshead will recall the teachings of the Greeks and the reference to the suitability of the plains for Democracies and lofty citadels for Monarchies and Oligarchies. Surely the Professor will not be offended if some of us prefer the teachings of Aristotle to those of Professor Adshead!

Professor Adshead wishes the people of Manchester to prepare artificial lay-outs. Does this mean that the old doctrine that the building is to suit the site should be reversed and the site made to suit the building? Is this to be the teaching at the London University? The making of artificial curves and gradients does not conduce to easy transit or haulage. Hill sites are not suitable for workmen's dwellings: the extra labour and cost of haulage and the fact that some of the haulage is done by the tenants themselves, make it prohibitive. Old men and women should not be made to climb to their homes. Steep roads, in winter, are dangerous for all. This class of tenant cannot afford any luxurious mode of travelling. Perhaps the Manchester Corporation have considered these serious matters.

In the grid-iron lay-out a man can, under and unhindered, find a direct way to his own domicile; but he may have some difficulty in so doing in the modern and unfortunately English puzzle-garden lay-out, of which a general view of its sweeps and curves may only be gained from an aeroplane. Bird's-eye views are apt to deceive the lay mind: they are practically impossible views. Views from the roads and approaches are the only honest exposition. The grid-iron lay-out in no way detracts from or mars the opportunity for interesting groups or features and for sober architectural treatment, and especially is this the case where the main cross diagonal roads cut through the minor streets. There is a very interesting sketch in Mr. Raymond Unwin's book on *Town Planning in Practice* (page xv., Introduction to the Second Edition). Is this sketch a biased sketch? Is the introduction of factory and commercial buildings a reasonable and proper comparison with the interesting sketches by Mr. Wade in other parts of Mr. Unwin's book? Or is it an endeavour to ridicule the supposed difficulties of the main cross diagonal roads cutting through the minor roads? The puzzle-garden lay-outs recall the efforts of the Victorian landscape gardener, and some of us had hoped his efforts had died with him. Hill sites are another matter, and compel the placing of the buildings and approaches convenient to the contour lines. Wilbraham Road is a flat site and therefore demands a grid-iron treatment. North of the Wilbraham Road site may be a crowded area; but the South, East and West are practically open country. Abutting on the site are Alexandra Park (60 acres) and Platt Fields (90 acres) which are kept open for the benefit of the more crowded areas in the vicinity.

Mr. Gerald Sanville and the City Architect kindly revised this scheme, and this revised plan was passed by the Ministry of Health. The cul-de-sac was only introduced in one or two places, probably to please the wishes of the Ministry, the main roads and cross roads being retained.

The two following paragraphs may be of interest to Professor Adshead; they are not the utterances of uninformed experts, but of men versed in the history

of town planning. It is self-evident that they differ from the school of modern methods and modern thought, of which Professor Adshead would appear to be a disciple:

"We shall be wise to remember the natural and proper part that formality and symmetry play in architectural grouping, and by the careful study of Classic and Renaissance Planning, learn to appreciate the importance of maintaining simple, orderly, broad lines of design, characteristics which we find lacking in many German plans, where the designer seems sometimes to neglect the broader elements of his art in undue concentration on a somewhat forced picturesqueness of treatment in the minor details."

"It must be sufficient that historic interest and picturesque ruin are both accents and accidents unattainable by the modern architect, and do not arise from intelligent forethought in plan design. An imitative cult of crookedness, of narrow, winding streets, of irregular and unexpected places and sites will not ultimately justify itself as intelligent civic design."—Yours faithfully,

PAUL OGDEN [F.].

Author of the Grid-iron Lay-out, Wilbraham Road Site, Manchester.

#### A War Memorial of the Last Century.

*Sir John Soane's Museum; 1st May, 1920.*

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—The President's interesting reference to Soane in connection with the Wellington Monument on Blackdown Hill makes me think that a note on Thomas Lee, the architect, may be appreciated. I give it from a table of Soane's pupils and assistants which will, when printing becomes reasonable, appear in a publication of this Museum.

*Thomas Lee*, son of Thomas Lee, architect (who was a pupil of H. Rhodes and had retired to Barnstable), born 1794, died 1834. In Soane's office July–November, 1810. Came on trial, but left before being articulated, and entered the office of David Laing, an earlier pupil of Soane's. Student R.A., 1812; Silver Medallist, 1815. Gold Medallist, Society of Arts, 1816. Architect of the Wellington Monument on Blackdown Hill, near Wellington, in 1818. The Town Hall, Barnstable, in 1818, and several churches in the country are by him. Accidentally drowned. (Memoir by T. L. Donaldson, R.I.B.A., 27th December, 1838).

Young Lee is not the only instance of those who had had any connection with Soane's office applying to him later on to back their schemes with the weight of his experience and acknowledged position. Lee probably knew all about the triangular obelisk of 1804 in the market place at Reading, of which there is a beautiful polished mahogany model in the model room of the Museum. Soane, in fact, had a special leaning to triangular plans, and those who can recall the instructions of "Hints to Young Architects," by G

Wightwick, who was also connected with Soane's office, may remember a cautional diagram on that very subject. There is a Soane look about the Memorial, though I doubt if he would have put a statue on the top.—Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR T. BOLTON [F.].  
Curator of Sir John Soane's Museum.

To the Editor. JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

DEAR SIR.—I have read with interest the article by our President, and on page 272 I notice reference to a report on the Wellington Monument, near Taunton, by a Mr. C. E. Giles, in June 1853, and should like to state that Mr. Giles was a Fellow of the Institute, had an office in Furnival's Inn, Holborn, and a large practice in Somerset and Devon, chiefly church work. I was in his office when he carried out the Taunton College and many church restorations. A brother of his was the Rev. Dr. Giles, Rector of Sutton, Surrey.—Yours faithfully,  
HENRY LOVEGROVE [A.]

#### Defective Timber : Ravages of Insects.

To the Editor. JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

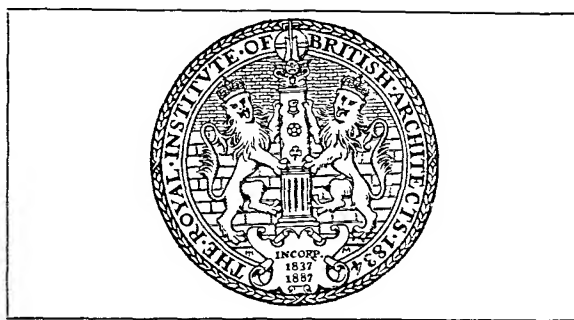
SIR.—May I be allowed, on behalf of the Science Standing Committee of the R.I.B.A., to draw attention to the prevalent defects which arise in converted timber due to the depredations of boring insects. Cases have come to notice in which panelling and like work has become riddled with holes in a couple of years owing to these ravages, which occasionally cause serious defects in constructional work also.

My Committee, with the assistance of Dr. Gahan, of the Natural History Museum, are anxious to investigate this subject and will be grateful for any specimens of such defective wood, with as much information as possible as to its location and history. It is hoped that by this co-operation on the part of members investigations may lead to the publication of a monograph upon the best means of preventing these attacks and of treating wood suffering from incipient defects of this character. Specimens should be addressed to the Hon. Secretaries, Science Committee, 9, Conduit Street, Regent Street, W.—Your obedient servant,

ALAN E. MUNBY [F.], *Chairman*.

#### Books Received.

Old Crosses and Lychgates. By Aymer Vallance. 8m 40. Lond 1920. 18s. net. [B. F. Batford, Ltd., 94 High Holborn, W.C.]  
Hellenic Architecture : Its Genesis and Growth. By Edward Bell, M.A., F.S.A., author of "The Architecture of Ancient Egypt : A Historical Outline." 80. Lond. 1920. 7s. 6d. net. [G. Bell & Sons, Ltd.]  
Colour Schemes for the Home and Model Interiors. By Henry W. Frohme, editor of *Good Furniture Magazine*, and Alice F. and Bettina Jackson, Interior Decorators. 40. 1919. 21s. net. [J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, and London.]  
Specification, with which is incorporated the Municipal Engineers' Specification for Architects, Surveyors and Engineers when specifying, and for all interested in building. Frederick Chatterton [F.], Editor. No 22. 1920. Fcap fol. 5s. net; postage 9d. extra. [Technical Journals, Ltd., 27/29, Tothill Street, Westminster.]  
Landscape Architecture : A Comprehensive Classification Scheme for Books, Plans, Photographs, Notes, and other Collected Material. With combined Alphabetic Topic Index and List of Subject Headings. By Henry Vincent Hubbard, Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture at Harvard University, and Theodora Kimball, Librarian of the School of Landscape Architecture at Harvard University. Roy. 80 [Cambridge : Harvard University Press.]



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 8th May 1920.

### CHRONICLE.

#### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

AITKEN : JAMES HUNTER, Lieut. Black Watch [Student]. Died in June, 1916, of injuries received through the explosion of a bomb.

Lieut. Aitken was in charge of a party near Ripon practising bombing in trenches provided for the purpose, when a bomb fell on top of the parapet and rolled back into the trench. Realising the danger, he shouted to his corporal to get back, and stooped over the bomb to pick it up and throw it clear of the trench, but it exploded, and he received the full force of the charge. He was removed to Ripon Military Hospital and died the same evening. Lieut. Aitken had been at the Front for thirteen months and was an expert in bomb throwing.

#### Military Honours.

HOOKE, WALTER [A.], Capt., R.E. : mentioned in General Allenby's Dispatch 5th March 1919 "for difficult work in building the Jerusalem-Ramallah Light Railway, and for bridge-work on the Rayak-Aleppo Railway." Also thanked by Maj.-Gen. H. Livingstone, R.E., for special work in the Balkans. After three years' service Captain Hooker was injured in both legs and was invalided out of the Service.

TRAVERS, WILFRID [F.], Lt.-Col., R.E. (confirmed on retirement, *Gazette*, 29th March, 1920) : O.B.E. (*Gazette*, 3rd June, 1919) : mentioned in Dispatches, G.O.C. Brit. Salonika Army, dated 11/18 and 9/3 19.

#### "Luxury" Building.

*The Times* of the 30th April published the following letter from the President, under the above heading :

"SIR.—It is curious how nervously resentful are the newer Government Departments of any suggestion, however well intended, that their methods may be capable of improvement. I ventured to point out in *The Times* of the 19th inst.\* that the prohibition of 'luxury' building—which means, in effect, every kind of building that competes with the demand for labour by the Ministry's housing scheme—must inevitably cause unemployment in the highly skilled categories of operatives : and that the only sound

\* See JOURNAL, 24 April, p. 293.



policy for expediting the erection of houses lay in stimulating the whole building trade, so that more labour should be attracted to an obviously flourishing industry.

"Yet, in his speech at Southgate, Dr. Addison is reported to have accused me of 'assailing the Ministry,' and to have dismissed my prediction of unemployment as 'all rubbish,' a comfortable, if not very convincing, rejoinder. Incidentally he disclaims any desire to 'do the architects any harm,' which may indicate a twinge of the official conscience for the way they were treated by the Government during the war. I said nothing about architects, nor would my profession thank me for airing their private troubles in the Press, still less for founding upon them any attack on the efforts of the Ministry to provide houses for the people. I trust Dr. Addison will accept my disavowal of any hostility to his Department, and especially to its greatly liked and respected chief. The Royal Institute of British Architects is anxious to help him, and only regrets his failure to consult and avail himself of its powerful organisations. It is not alone in its regrets; the President of the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, speaking at Olympia last Saturday, complains that the Government have never taken them into their confidence; the big contractors (*v. The Times*, 21st inst.) make the same reproach. Meanwhile, like Whistler's art critic, the Department 'likes its pot shots at things,' and treats commentary on its decrees as 'all rubbish.' But its satisfaction is not shared by others; the technical Press, which represents all classes of the building trade, shares the view I have expressed in your columns; and the flood of press-cuttings and correspondence which comes to me shows the disquietude as to the effect of the Ministry's action to be widespread.

"Every man who is discharged by the stoppage of a building, even if he succeeds in finding work elsewhere, spreads the lesson that building is a declining trade and employment therein precarious; Mr. Bramley vouches for over 9,000 ex-Service building operatives being still in receipt of unemployment pay. With these facts facing them, how can the trade unions be blamed if they hesitate before that recruiting of their numbers which can only follow, not precede, general prosperity? Dr. Laurie's letter to you puts the case succinctly, 'While their own members are seeking for work, they are not willing to have new men trained for their trades.' Surely the inference is that every kind of building must be encouraged, so that more labour may be attracted to and absorbed into the industry. Housing will obtain its share; it cannot have all, for it cannot employ all. If bricklayers, for example, are withdrawn from 'less necessary' construction, the masons and other highly skilled operatives, which it alone employs, must stand idle.

"Luxury building can wait a bit," says Dr. Addison; but he does not tell us for how long it is to wait. The housing scheme is still in its infancy; 100,000 houses

by next spring—and we can expect no more—will do little to overtake arrears; production must be at least doubled, and continue for eight or ten years to come. If, then, the slowly reviving building trade is to be discouraged at the very outset, what are its prospects for the future?

"The repeal of the land values clauses of 1910, and the promised formation of building guilds by operatives, will, I believe, do far more to solve the housing problem than any action by the Ministry of Health; but consideration of the questions they raise would trespass unduly on your space. Broadly speaking, two essentials are needed for housing—money, and bricklayers. Neither will be obtained until private enterprise is encouraged and the whole industry prosperous.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. SIMPSON,  
*President of the Royal Institute of  
British Architects.*

#### National Federation of Building Trades Operatives and "Luxury" Building.

The London District Council of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives meeting at the Tavistock Street Labour Exchange on the 28th April discussed the action of the London County Council in restricting building of a certain type in order to concentrate on the erection of houses, and the following resolution was adopted:—

"That the question of defining what is luxury work, and how the L.C.C. Order should be applied to London building operations, be referred to the Building Industries Consultative Board (composed of architects, surveyors, master builders, and operatives) for their considered opinion, this to be conveyed to the London County Council, and that the Federation press for full statistics and a survey of London building work."

A report in *The Times* of the 29th April states that "it was decided that the Emergency Committee of the London District Council of Operatives should at once proceed with an inspection of the housing schemes which are being put forward in the Metropolis, and which, they believe, are in many respects unsatisfactory and open to criticism. 'We shall have to decide,' said Mr. J. Murrey, the secretary, 'whether the proposed houses are actually worth building and suitable for the population. We shall commence the inspection this week, from the practical operatives' point of view, and when the report is made it will be made public and sent to the London County Council. Our contention is that it is not right to stop so-called "luxury" work, and to divert labour to the building of houses which will be little better than slums.'

"The Council approved the principle of the Guild project for the taking over of housing schemes by the operatives and carrying them out from start to finish without the intervention of contractors or master builders. A draft prospectus for the establishment of a London Building Guild is to be sent to the branches



of the Federation for their endorsement. The scheme differs in some respects from the Manchester and similar schemes, but Mr. Murrey said he considered it could be made a success. They had suggestions in view for meeting the financial side of the proposal. The men would be asked to register themselves, and the London Operatives' Council would then know exactly how they stood in regard to labour, and their ability to accept building schemes."

#### Building Prohibition by the London County Council.

The Report of the Special (Building Control) Committee presented at the meeting of the London County Council on the 4th inst. states that the Committee have decided to issue orders in pursuance of section 5 (Prohibition of Building Operations which interfere with the Provision of Dwelling-houses) prohibiting all building operations in connection with new schemes for the erection of places of amusement. The Committee are at present engaged in the preparation of the notices and orders prescribed by the Building (Appeal Procedure) Rules, 1920, for issue to building owners, etc., contemplating any such schemes. Since 31st March, 1920, they have taken action with regard to a large number of cases under section 5 of the Act, particulars of which will appear in their next quarterly report.

#### Graves of the Fallen.

*The Times* of the 26th April published the following communication signed by the President and the Secretary of the Royal Institute:—"The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects, having examined the proposals of the War Graves Commission embodied in the descriptive account entitled 'The Graves of the Fallen,' consider them extremely satisfactory. They especially urge that the principle of uniform head-stones, combined with the accentuating features of a Cross of Sacrifice and Stone of Remembrance, should be maintained as a fine æsthetic expression of the common service and sacrifice they commemorate. They further urge that the advice of the competent designers employed by the Commission should be accepted without reserve in order to ensure simple and dignified treatment of the war cemeteries abroad."

Mr. Rudyard Kipling, addressing a meeting of the Parliamentary Army Committee at the House of Commons on the 27th April, in explanation of the work of the Imperial War Graves Commission, said that the Commission at the very beginning unanimously decided that there should be absolute equality of treatment of the graves of those who had made equal sacrifice in the service of their country. There were in France and Flanders alone over half a million dead, belonging to many races and to many creeds. They were inextricably mingled as they lay, and they had fought and died for one great ideal. Another leading aim of the Commission was that the graves and

the cemeteries should endure for ever. The durability of every detail had been studied, with the object of designing a memorial which would last longer than any other form. Little space could be given to the headstones, for the dead often lay shoulder to shoulder and sometimes there were two or three in each grave. The headstones were let into long concrete beams, so that no stone could fall unless the whole beam went down. This again made a certain uniformity necessary, and step by step the Commission were forced to the conclusion that a certain uniform type of headstone could alone prove enduring. Elaborate tombstones such as those who could afford them would like to erect to their dead, in marble or mosaic or in relief, would not stand so well against the weather, and it was not thought wise or expedient to admit them into cemeteries where soldiers lay shoulder to shoulder. He had seen the finished cemetery at Le Tréport, and was moved to the heart by the dignity and simplicity of its arrangements and by the sense it gave of restful permanence.

Sir Fabian Ware pointed out that every gravestone had a cross cut on it, unless the relatives objected. Every Jewish gravestone bore the sign of David and there was a special design for Moslem soldiers.

#### Royal Academy Ateliers : New Conditions of Entry.

The several Ateliers in London are about to be federated, and the conditions of entry, scheme of organisation, and system of education standardised, so that while each Atelier will retain its independence and separate existence under the direction of its Patron, it will be one of a group affiliated with the Royal Academy.

Admission will be by examination only, to include design, drawing, modelling, mathematics, archaeology, and oral examination. In the first instance, however, the Patron's Committee will nominate a certain percentage of Present Students to be admitted without examination. Those wishing to have their application considered must apply in writing to the Hon. Secretary, at 34, Bedford Square, W.C.1, giving details of their architectural education and training and a record of their work in the Atelier, and any award they may have received. The fees will be two guineas per annum, and thirty shillings for each bi-monthly competition, and a fee (not fixed) for each *esquisse*.

Candidates qualifying by examination (including those specially exempted by the Patron's Committee) will be admitted to full membership, and be able to participate in all competitions, etc., and to have the advantage of the assistance of the Patron and Sous-Patron, and to compete for the Diplomas, Mentions, Medals, Certificates, and other awards, and will be admitted free to the Architectural Association and University College life classes.

Other students may be admitted by the Patron pending and contingent on their passing the full membership examination (subject to there being any vacancies). They will pay a membership fee of two guineas per annum as the other students, and may use the Atelier, but will not be entitled to claim the assistance of the Patron or Sous-Patron, and will not be eligible to have their work submitted for competition, or participate in the awards.

The maximum number of students in each Atelier will be 30.

A candidate after passing the entrance examination is admitted into membership of the second class, and when he has obtained a certain minimum of mentions in various subjects will be admitted into membership of the *first class*; after obtaining a further minimum of mentions he will be eligible to sit for the *Diploma Examination*.

There will be a Students' Committee for each Atelier, who will appoint their own monitors, librarian, and hon. secretary, and will be responsible to the Controlling Committee for the proper conduct of the Atelier under the direction of the Patron and Sous-Patron.

Bi-monthly exhibitions and criticisms will be held, and a yearly Exhibition of Prize Drawings, which latter will become the property of the Royal Academy Ateliers.

The Jury will consist of two members of the Royal Academy, Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., and the Patrons of the various Ateliers belonging to the Royal Academy group—Messrs. A. J. Davis, Patron of the First Atelier; Professor Richardson, Patron of the University College Atelier; and Mr. R. Atkin-on, Patron of the A. A. Atelier.

#### The Annual General Meeting.

Mr. WALTER CAVE, *Vice-President*, who took the chair in the absence of the President, having formally presented the Annual Report of the Council, a discussion took place, of which the following is a summary:—

Mr. WM. WOODWARD [F.] said he was sure the meeting would agree with him in congratulating the President on his return to health, and they hoped his good health would continue, so that he would be able to fulfil one of the duties which was probably uppermost in his mind—viz., to pay a visit to the Allied Societies. Last year he (Mr. Woodward) expressed the hope that the war restrictions on building would be removed. But, far from being removed, they had been very much increased, and, he was afraid, greatly to the detriment of the profession. The Obituary List in the Annual Report was always sad reading; he was constrained to say how much they must all regret the loss of their old friend and colleague, Samuel Perkins Pick. His untimely death was a great loss to the Institute. The membership was practically the same as in 1915, and he was glad to note that 13 Licentiates had passed the qualifying examination, and 8 of them had been duly elected to the Fellowship. They were all glad to see those Licentiates admitted into the regular membership of the Institute. Coming to the record of honour on pages 275 and 276, illustrating the self-sacrifice and devotion to which we in this country owed our present liberty, what a lesson could be conveyed from this to the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. The Institute, when its young students quitted the Army, treated them generously, showed them every consideration, and aided them to continue in the profession they had chosen to enter before the war. The Amalgamated Society, on the other hand, and the metal trades, when their young men went back perfectly able to work at their trade, "downed tools," and declined to resume work if the ex-Service men were taken into the trade. On page 278 reference was made to the Building Industries Consultative Board's vigorous appeal to all concerned to redouble their efforts to improve production and remove the existing causes of friction, delay and uncertainty. His own personal opinion was that no good whatever was likely to result to the building trade and the architectural profession until Dr. Addison's Department was relegated to the place the road to which is said to be paved with good intentions. Referring to the note headed the "Revision of the Conditions of Contract," he himself had been appointed to serve on that committee, but

had resigned because their report contained clauses to which he could not agree—clauses throwing upon the builder responsibilities which were clearly the responsibilities of architects. If the builders had ever seen the Committee's proposed revision of the Form of Contract he could understand their putting forward their own Code, for they must have seen that the Institute's proposed revision contained clauses to which they could never agree. He had not yet seen the Code, but from an article he had read on the subject he gathered that that Code contained clauses to which neither architects nor clerks of works could be expected to agree. He included clerks of works because the Code contained clauses which seriously affected them. The matter was important because for years past it had only to be stated that the R.I.B.A. Form of Contract was to be used and every builder of repute would sign it at once. Now the position was that the builders would not agree to the old Form of Contract, and they probably would not agree to the new one. Architects, again, would not agree to the builders' new Code. He hoped the matter would be brought before a General Meeting and fully discussed. The Peace Day celebrations, to take place on Tuesday, 29th June, in honour of their returned Service members and students, was a capital idea on the part of the Council, and he hoped it would be attended with the success it so richly deserves. Coming to the question of finances, there was a paragraph on p. 280 stating that because of the rise in prices it was proposed to increase subscriptions and fees. That proposal would come before a Special General Meeting, and he felt sure members would give it the support which it obviously deserved. With regard to the reports of the Standing Committees, there was only one thing he would touch upon, and that was in connection with the Literature Committee, which called attention to that remarkable work, Rubens's *Palazzi di Genova*, presented to the Library by Mr. St. Clair Baddeley. The original drawings in that book, the detailed working-out of the ceilings, floors, etc., and other sections were well worthy attention; he had no idea that in those days such great attention was paid to the details of plans and elevations. The Report of the Hon. Auditors mentioned the fact that an overdraft of £825 had been converted into a credit balance of £1,298. That was very good indeed, considering the circumstances and the difficulties of war time, and it could only have been brought about through the most strenuous exertions of the Finance Committee. The Auditors also made the satisfactory statement that the amount received for subscriptions and arrears considerably exceeded that of the previous year. That showed that the Institute was beginning to feel its feet, for this increase must go on increasing until they had got rid of the effect of the war. As to the valuation of the premises, no doubt the fire insurance had been at least doubled—at all events there was a considerable increase. He much regretted to see that the mortgage of £4,000 on the premises still remained, and although only 4 per cent. was paid upon it, it would be a splendid thing to be able to say next year that the mortgage of £4,000 had been wiped out and that they were now free of any mortgage. He noticed that the JOURNAL cost, for one year, £1,700, but this was reduced by the income on that account to £822. Perhaps some suggestions might be forthcoming as to means for reducing the cost of the JOURNAL. Looking at the figures in the balance sheet, it occurred to him that the cost might possibly be reduced. There was an item in the balance sheet which he was sorry to see: £2,610 subscriptions in arrear for 1919 and previously. That seemed a very large amount, though it was not for last year only, but for the period of the war, when practically they were all suffering from want of work, and many could not afford to pay. But, even taking that into account, he was surprised that the figure was so high. He had no doubt in the course of the next year or two the arrears would be cleared off; he was sure

that every member who could pay would do so. As regards the deficit of £3,050 estimated for the current year, one could only take the estimate as a whole, and he was of opinion that at the end of this year, taking into account the credit balance of £1,298 shown at the end of 1919, the deficit, instead of being £3,050, would be certainly not more than £1,500, while next year and the year after that he hoped they would have returned to normal conditions. Finally he would ask the indulgence of the meeting while he made a few observations respecting the staff. He regarded the staff of the Institute in the same way as he regarded his own staff. They all knew that the cost of living and the cost of clothing and of everything had gone up very much; they could not stop at 100 per cent., hardly even at 160 per cent. The Institute staff numbered fifteen persons, many of whom had been with them for many years. During the war the Secretary, Mr. MacAlister, had been doing his duty on military service, and they were delighted to see him demobilised and back with them and in good health, which they hoped would continue. (Applause.) There were also their old friends Mr. Tayler and Mr. Northover, still very fit. And there was Mr. Direks, who had done such admirable work for the Library. There was Mr. Baker, whom they always found a willing and able assistant, ready to help them in every way in his power. And there was Mr. Spragg and Mr. Scorer in the Secretary's office, and Mr. Keith, the Assistant Librarian, who had been with them for fourteen years. The Society of Architects had, very properly, increased the salaries of their staff. The lawyers had done it, so had the doctors, and everyone else, and he was of opinion that now, to-day, the time had arrived when the Institute ought to do something for its staff. They had anticipated that in a year or two they should have got back to more satisfactory conditions in finance, but they had no right to ask the staff to wait until then; the want was immediate. He therefore asked the meeting to agree that the sum of £500 be allocated to the staff, which would be adjudicated upon, in the matter of proportion, by the President and Finance Committee. It meant 12½ per cent. spread over the whole staff. Considering the increased prices, he did not think such an increase was too much for their excellent staff. He trusted sincerely that his suggestion would be adopted.

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD [F.] said that, as Chairman of the Contract Committee, he could inform Mr. Woodward that the complete draft of the Contract would be immediately printed and published. It was a very great regret to the Committee that they parted company with Mr. Woodward: they thought it would have been very much wiser for him to have remained on the Committee to urge his points. They had given the greatest consideration to his suggestions. He could assure Mr. Woodward that the Committee were in no way hostile to the builders. The Committee's object was to safeguard the interests of their clients; that was the duty of every architect. With regard to the question of the Building Code of the National Federation, it had been decided at the meeting of the Committee that afternoon that a Conference should be held, at the request of the Surveyors' Institution, with the Surveyors' and Quantity Surveyors' Committee of that Institution on the National Federation's Building Code. He agreed with Mr. Woodward that it was absolutely impossible for any architect to recommend his clients to sign the Code. With regard to Mr. Woodward's remarks as to the value of the buildings, the insurance had been increased from time to time, but at the present moment the whole building was being looked over with the view of checking the value the premises were insured for. He could assure Mr. Woodward that the premises and their valuable contents would be adequately insured. With regard to Mr. Woodward's suggestion as to the increase in the salaries of the staff: this question had been under careful consideration during the whole of the war, and the Council

had endeavoured, as far as they could with the Institute's limited means, to meet the exigencies of the case. He could assure Mr. Woodward that the Finance Committee had absolute sympathy with, and wished to do every justice to, the staff. But a resolution such as he proposed ought not to be sprung upon the meeting in this way: the matter must be gone into and taken on its merits, in view of the budget for the current year with its deficit of £3,050. And that was not the worst of it, for that afternoon they had increased it by £500, a resolution having been passed for £500 to be paid in four instalments to the Architectural Association Endowment Fund. It was fair to state that the salaries of the staff had been materially increased from time to time.

Mr. WOODWARD: In pre-war times the salaries were £3,077, in 1919 they were £3,841, and in 1920 it is proposed to make them £4,300. It is really a small increase.

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD: It is a substantial increase. We have been doing our duty on the Finance Committee.

Mr. DELISSA JOSEPH [F.] said that the Report showed a great deal of good work commenced, but a very small amount of good work actually accomplished. One could see evidences of the initiative of the President, who throughout his year of office had always shown himself receptive to new ideas; and there was much reason to hope, from the various movements which had been set going in the Institute during the past twelve months, that valuable results would accrue. But looking for practical issues, he was bound to say that the Report was disappointing. What were the actual achievements of the past twelve months? They had carried the Scale of Professional Charges, a very valuable and useful piece of work, but, unfortunately, inopportune, because the just proposal to charge 6 per cent., which was advocated in 1912 and rejected, and which was adopted last year, was not popular with clients, because of the increased cost of building, and consequent automatic increase in architects' fees. But it was good work accomplished, and a very valuable guide in settling the architect's relations with his clients. With regard to the Conditions of Contract, Mr. Searles-Wood had kindly explained the position a little more clearly than appeared in the Report itself. On the basis of the Report, it seemed that the Builders' Institute had established a form of contract, that they had repudiated their agreement with the Institute, and, in the meantime, the Institute not having completed its own form of contract, there had been no opportunity for conference with the builders. Mr. Searles-Wood had told them that his Committee had completed the draft, and that it would be submitted to the Institute at an early date. It was hoped that there would then be an attempt to bring about an *entente* with the builders. The Institute must endeavour to achieve, with them, a common form of contract for the guidance of architects, such as they had been able to use with success in past years. Then there was the question of the future of architecture. Towards the end of the war members were told that a Committee had been formed to consider the future of architecture, and the suggestion was warmly welcomed. And although nothing was known of what took place at that Committee, members were told that evidence was taken, and were led to believe the time was not far distant when some valuable suggestion would be made. But the Future of Architecture Committee had dismissed itself apparently, and satisfied its conscience by handing over its archives to the new Committee. That was a most unsatisfactory position. Members were entitled to have an interim report from that Committee, so that they might know what the Committee had been doing, or attempting to do, during those years. With regard to the question of the unification of the profession, after the war it was not unreasonable to expect that this question of unification, which was the keynote of the future, would have been dealt with sooner. What was the position during the war? Those who were left here, apart from the fact that their

work was entirely suspended, had not had their services adequately utilised: the profession was not adequately recognised by the Government as factors which would have been of service to the country in a time of crisis. And the reason the profession was ignored by the Government was that it was unable to present a united front: there were too many societies, too many so-called authorities claiming to represent the profession. And, so long as authority was divided, so long as the good work of the Institute was confused with the good work of the Society of Architects, so long as there was not unification of the profession, so long as they could not present a united front to the Government, the profession would continue to be in a false position when another crisis arose. It was eighteen months since the Armistice, yet only in the last fortnight had the Council taken steps to secure unification. In the meantime, what had happened? The Institute had failed to assert itself as representing the interests of architects in the crisis in the past year: it failed to make its voice heard when the second Housing Bill went through the House with that pernicious clause with regard to restriction of building. Everyone who went through the embargo experience at the end of the war knew what that meant: once the power was put into the hands of bureaucrats, they used it to the utmost limits. It was said in Parliament that this clause in the Housing Act would be used discreetly. The Institute represented to the Government the danger of the clause, but they were unable to influence the Government, and that was, he submitted, because they were unable to present a united front for the profession. And when the Tribunal was resolved upon to decide what was a "luxury building," the Institute failed to get a single nominee on it. It was an outstanding fact which he could not forget that the Tribunal to whom their work was to be submitted on this question of a luxury building did not include a solitary architect.

Mr. WOODWARD: But you remember the President's letter?

Mr. JOSEPH: I regard our President as one of the most eminent and most progressive men we have ever had in the Chair; we are under an enormous obligation to him for what he has done, particularly as he was laid aside for some months by illness. I am not criticising the President, but the Report of the Council, which consists of eminent men, who have, no doubt, done their best in our interests too, but there have been conspicuous failures, and we must see if a repetition can be prevented, and remedies adopted.

Continuing his criticism, Mr. JOSEPH said that another growth of the year which appeared to be full of promise was the Building Industries Consultative Board, on which architects, surveyors, contractors and operatives were to sit. The meeting at which the formation of that Board was suggested was one of the most impressive they had ever had. The Board had issued a Memorandum full of admirable axioms, but which would have no influence on public opinion. It was admitted in the Report that it had failed in its purpose, because it presented its case against the restriction of building to the Government, and admitted it could not make any impression. Therefore once more an organisation, well designed and well intended, had failed of its purpose. He was surprised that no previous speaker had referred to this question of luxury buildings. It might not have come home to any of them very closely, but it was coming closer every day, and unless steps were taken, it would have the same sort of effect as the war embargo had. Architects cheerfully accepted that because of the war, but there was no such crisis to-day to justify what the Government were doing: once more, the profession of the architect was threatened. It could not be pretended, as the President pointed out in his able letter to *The Times*, that the stoppage of the great commercial buildings in the heart of London could materially help the building projected in the Provinces or in the Suburbs. The proportion of bricklayers for that was small, and if they took the brick-

layers from all the large contracts to-day, and put them on to suburban work, it would not appreciably help the housing problem, but would throw upon the streets thousands of highly skilled artisans whose work was required for the larger buildings but was not needed in the outskirts. And even bricklayers' labour could not be conscripted: people who worked in Oxford Street and lived in Shepherd's Bush could not be compelled to remove with their families to, say, Ilford, where there would be no accommodation for them, to join in the work of housing. And even if that were done, the number of buildings was too small to affect the issue. Were they to take all this lying down? Emphatically "No." And, admirable as was the letter to *The Times*, great as was the influence of the paper it was in, and valuable as was the leading article on it, that was not enough. They must create public opinion, the thing could only be remedied by publicity, and that could only be done if they were supported by all the interests which were affected by this proposal. The apparently innocuous clause inserted in the Bill had been placed by the Ministry, for the purposes of administration, in the hands of the Local Authorities, but he did not doubt that those Authorities had been instructed by the Ministry to put this clause into force in the strongest possible manner. They could not conceive that the London County Council would have given instructions to their officers to stop these commercial buildings in the centre of London unless they had been impressed with the idea that they were thereby going to help the housing problem. We were told that the Local Authorities must exercise their judgment about these prohibitions. It meant that the Government, in order to shield themselves on account of the ghastly failure of the housing scheme, was trying to find scapegoats: and they thought they had found one in the architect, and particularly in the owners of the large buildings now in progress, and which would probably be stopped. But if architects really thought the stoppage of those buildings would mean a solution of the housing problem they would cheerfully accept the disastrous position, as they had done during the war. But they knew that the stoppage of work on these commercial buildings in the centre of London would not help the housing question. But it would seriously affect the architects' position, and would even more seriously affect the position of the highly skilled artisans employed for this kind of work, work of a character which had no outlet in buildings in the suburbs or in the provinces. Therefore they had to ask themselves what they should do. If union was strength, they must look to union for the strength that they needed. Would it not be possible for the Institute to call a great public meeting, consisting of members of the Institute, members of the Society of Architects, members of the Allied Societies, members of the Surveyors' Institution, members of the various builders' institutions and associations throughout the country, the great "captains of industry," if he might use the term? The President could submit to that meeting a reasoned scheme or statement, pointing out the fallacy and the inutility and the danger of the present action. And there should be a resolution put and carried calling on the Government to withdraw these restrictions, in so far as they failed to help the housing problem, while at the same time disastrously affecting so many classes. This resolution, with the reasoned statement, should be printed and sent to every Member of Parliament. And a delegation should be appointed, representative of each class at the meeting, and the Prime Minister be asked to receive it, also in public. In this way they might hope to create a public opinion too strong to be ignored, which might so modify the position as to remove the peril to so many interests. He did not propose, at the moment, to end with a resolution: but in this discussion on the Report of the Executive he threw out the suggestion that the most vital thing for them to-day was not so much the questions which had so far been considered in the speeches that evening—questions

more or less of domestic detail—as to say that those who had thought, foresight, vision, imagination, should not shut their eyes to the fact that the profession was once more threatened by Government restrictions, and that by them not only architects stood to be injured, and their clients also, and the skilled artisans he had referred to, but that the whole community stood to be injured, because, as was pointed out by the President in his letter to *The Times*, and as other writers had shown too, there was an interaction in these things, and if they were going to restrict by artificial means, without justification, an industry like building, a reaction would be caused on every other trade. During the moulders' strike there was scarcely a department of human activity, even outside the building trade, which was not affected by it. Looked at from that point of view, if this thing was pursued, the practical hanging up of the building industry would have widespread and disastrous effects upon the commercial and financial prosperity of the country. Therefore on national grounds, grounds impersonal to them, they had perfect justification for taking action.

Mr. W. HENRY WHITE [F.] asked to be allowed to correct a little misunderstanding which appeared to be in Mr. Joseph's mind with reference to the Form of Contract. The matter had gone a good deal further than Mr. Joseph seemed to understand. First of all, as a member of the Contract Committee, he associated himself with the Chairman of that Committee in saying that they had not been in any way antagonistic to builders in their conferences. They gave every consideration, lengthy consideration extending over a period of years, to every clause and every word in the Contract, with the result that when it was submitted to the Council of the Institute the Council practically approved of the draft contract, the contract had been submitted to their solicitors, and the solicitors had approved it, and they were now in the position practically as stated in the Report. The revised terms of contract would be, in a week or so, he hoped, in the hands of members as the Model Terms of Contract approved by the Council.

Mr. WOODWARD asked if the document was to be printed as the conditions of contract approved by the Royal Institute before the general body had had the opportunity of considering it?

Mr. WHITE explained that there was a brief statement attached calling attention to the fact that the draft terms of contract were presented to the Builders' Federation. That body kept the document about twelve months, and gave the Institute no consideration of the subject whatever: they merely presented to the Council their own code of building. And when members read that code, he thought they would feel that anything which had been said against it was justified. It was a document which none of them could make any use of whatever, on behalf of the client, the architect, the builder, or anyone else concerned. However, the Institute was now left in a free position, a position many of them were very glad to be in, and the terms of contract which the Council will publish would be sent out as a model form approved by the Council. That was the present situation; and when members got that document they would see it was a proper position for the Institute to be in.

Mr. WOODWARD: I should like clearly to understand whether or not the document of conditions of contract which Mr. White referred to is to be distributed amongst members of this Institute as the document approved by this Institute, or not.

Mr. WHITE: Yes. I hope we shall have the document soon. Mr. White went on to say that he had great pleasure in supporting what Mr. Joseph had said with reference to the Committee which was appointed to consider the future of architects and architecture. It was astounding that after the length of time that Committee sat there was nothing

to be put before the Institute as to what the Committee had done. He drew attention, on the last occasion their Annual Report was discussed, to the document which the American Institute of Architects had issued, a most illuminating document, which showed that the American Institute was a live wire. What Mr. Joseph had said made him feel that the R.I.B.A. was not a live wire: they were allowing themselves to be stamped upon by the powers that be, until they had no voice in the subject which interested them most, building. Except for the President's letter in *The Times*, he could not trace that anything had been done by the Institute to protect their interests or the interests of the building public against this legislation, which was an aftermath of the war. He hoped Mr. Joseph's remarks would develop into a resolution calling upon the Council to take such united action with the Allied Societies and other interested bodies as would enable them to put up a strong protest on behalf of the building public against this unwarranted ban upon their work. He trusted that the present Council, before going out of office, would accomplish the work which this proposal asked them to do, and so give the new Council something to work upon.

Mr. WOODWARD asked the Chairman whether the Conditions of Contract, referred to in the last paragraph of page 278 of the Annual Report, were to go forth to the members of the Institute as having received the approval of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The CHAIRMAN: No, sir. It has been before the Council of the Royal Institute, and it was referred to the Contract Committee, and they have drawn up a Model Contract which has been approved by the Council.

Mr. WOODWARD: Will the members of the Institute have an opportunity, before this is printed as receiving the approval of the Institute, to discuss the provisions of the document?

Mr. WHITE: I trust that that will not be the case. It has taken seven years to produce this draft. Every clause of this document has been thoroughly thrashed out, the draft contract has been sent to the Allied Societies, their reports have been received, and they have been again gone through by the Terms of Contract Committee, and the Council themselves appointed their own Committee to consider the terms. Therefore, if you can trust your officers to do anything for you, I hope you will accept this document.

Mr. WOODWARD: I resigned from this special Committee on Contracts to which Mr. White refers because of obnoxious terms.

Mr. HERBERT W. WILLS [F.]: I think Mr. Woodward is right. The Committee receives instructions to take action on a point, and as a matter of course the result is put before the general body for endorsement. It is true that the contract may be so perfect that it will be endorsed unanimously, but I do not think any Committee has plenary powers to override the general body.

Mr. WHITE: It is not done by the action of the Committee only, it is approved by the Council.

Mr. JOSEPH: Several of my friends think I ought to have finished my remarks by moving a resolution. With your permission, therefore, I shall submit this resolution:

"That the Council be requested to call a public meeting of architects, surveyors, builders' operatives, property owners, members of Allied Societies and other bodies interested, to protest against the present method of applying the 'Luxury clauses' of the Housing Act, and with the view of sending a delegation to the Prime Minister."

Mr. WILLS seconded.

The CHAIRMAN: I may say that practically the same thing was put before the Council this afternoon. The President attended the Council meeting, but had to leave before it was settled. He has already entered into communication with several bodies, and I think that for this



meeting he will ask that employers as well as builders shall be present. So the matter has already received attention. Of course, I do not wish to prevent your motion being put, Mr. Joseph.

Mr. JOSEPH: It will strengthen the President's hands. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. FRANCK: I hope Mr. White will see that the Conditions of Contract do come before a general meeting, because it is very important. Even if the revision has taken seven years, the document will be all the stronger for this course.

Mr. WHITE: It is not the Committee's desire to publish something without the knowledge of members. But this document has gone before the Council and been approved by them, so it is the Council's policy. No doubt the Council will arrange for it to come before a general meeting, if necessary. If it does I hope you will pass it, so that we may have something definite for guidance for every member of the Institute, who is badly in need of it, and has now nothing to go upon.

The CHAIRMAN: It is the intention of the Council to submit this as a guide. Personally I think that to put a very complicated document such as this before a general meeting to be discussed word by word would be quite impracticable.

Major H. C. CORLETTE [F.] said it had interested him very much to find that there was one Committee which was prepared to fight for something and try to carry it through. As a member of the Literature Standing Committee, he would take this opportunity of saying that he would like to see that Committee rather more alive. There was not enough given it to do; its only function seemed to be to look at a certain number of books and decide whether they should be bought or not. The Committee should have something to do with the question of education. The Board of Architectural Education perhaps did not feel the need of referring to the Literature Committee on such questions; but surely literature had something to do with educational questions. That was one of the directions in which the work of the Literature Committee might be made much more alive. Mr. Woodward had asked for suggestions as to how the cost of the JOURNAL might be reduced. Perhaps the Committee might be asked to consider its format. If it were on a smaller page it might be a more handy publication, but it would be an awkward size possibly for some of the illustrations. What had been said about the editorial work he personally endorsed entirely: the editorial work was excellent. He understood that the question of increase in salaries had been already considered to some extent, and he hoped it would be considered further.

Mr. MAURICE WEBB, D.S.O. [F.], said he would like to say how glad he was to hear Mr. Joseph move his resolution. Dr. Addison had referred to the President's letter in *The Times* as "all rubbish." That was a thing which no Society would stand. He thought that Mr. Joseph's resolution would lend valuable support to the action the Council had taken that afternoon.

Mr. FRANCIS HOOPER [F.], alluding to the estimated income on the sale of publications, said he thought they might go one step further with regard to official publications. Doubtless some income had been derived from the official Form of Contract, and it might be possible to go further in two directions: one in adopting an official Certificate for Payment to builders, for which members would probably not be unwilling to pay a higher price than for the ordinary form. Again, one branch of architects' work might be developed if they had a printed Certificate with regard to matters of sanitation, particularly the drainage of buildings. In certain boroughs, certificates were given by municipal officials. If a certificate could be furnished by the Institute, another source of income would be derived.

The CHAIRMAN, replying to some of the points raised in the discussion, said that the matter of staff salaries was now before the Finance Committee. It would be seen from past balance-sheets that increases had been given during the war in the form of bonuses. The Institute owed a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Searles-Wood, the Chairman of the Finance Committee. The work he had done was inestimable, and the satisfactory state of their finances was largely due to him. The question of unification was fully in the hands of the Council. At the Committee meetings on the Future of Architecture a considerable amount of evidence was taken on various useful details, and this would be placed before the Unification Committee, in whose deliberations it would be found of the greatest value. Mr. Joseph's proposal, which was seconded by Mr. Wills, was a very valuable one, and would greatly help the President. Talking to Mr. Ernest Newton a day or two ago about the threatened building stoppage, his view was very strong that if all the building restrictions were removed the impetus to the building trade would be such that the housing schemes would correspondingly improve. Mr. Newton had already urged the adoption of that course with the officials. The question Mr. Hooper raised about the publications was already under consideration by the Finance Committee. His idea of a standard certificate to be issued by the Institute was a very good one.

The rest of the proceedings are sufficiently recorded in the Minutes, p. 332.

#### Mr. Arthur Keen on Registration and Education.

The Institute was represented at the Annual Dinner of the South Wales Institute of Architects on the 14th April by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Arthur Keen. There was a very large gathering, including the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Dr. Evans Hoyle, of the Welsh National Museum, and Mr. Charles Coles, Director of the Cardiff Technical Institute. The toast of "The Professional Societies" was responded to by Mr. Keen and Mr. G. C. Lawrence, President of the Bristol Society. Mr. Keen explained the steps that were being taken towards the general registration of qualified architects and urged upon members the need for active recruiting for their Institute and for taking all possible steps during the next few months to obtain information about all unattached architects practising in their district in order to give information that might be required by the Registration Board in considering the applications that would be received in such large numbers from all who "profess and call themselves" architects. He pointed out that the success or otherwise of registration must ultimately depend on the value that the public attached to it, and the utmost care would have to be taken in order to make the register a reliable one. In his view the important factor in registration was the stimulus that it would necessarily give to education, for after the preliminary steps had been taken, an examination or educational record, or both, would be the test of an applicant's qualifications. In view of the recent establishment of a School of Architecture in Cardiff under Mr. W. S. Purchon [A.], Mr. Keen dwelt at length on the rapid growth of architectural education in many important cities and begged the architects of Cardiff to give the school their unqualified support, not only to enable

the coming generation to hold their own against their competitors, but also because a successful school was the surest means for keeping the important buildings in the district in the hands of the local men. The group of beautiful buildings in Catharg's Park which were the glory of Cardiff had, with the notable exception of Messrs. Ivor Jones and Percy Thomas's Technical School, been carried out by London architects, but it was obvious that the authorities would prefer to employ local men and would do so if the school justified the confidence that he claimed for it. South Wales provided the concentrated population that was required to supply sufficient students to maintain a high standard and to give the necessary incentive and spirit of emulation without which a school could do little, and he saw no reason why the Cardiff school should not attain to a very high position. In speaking of the general work of the Institute Mr. Keen referred to the reform of the conduct of public competitions by which the Institute had benefited architects generally as well as its own members to an extent that could hardly be over-estimated. And he showed how the energy and money lavished by the Institute on its Town Planning and Housing Congress in 1911 was now bringing an enormous return in which all architects were participating: but for that Congress and the strenuous work with which it was followed up the profession would have had little to do with the millions that are now being expended on housing. The Institute was never at rest, and the efforts that it was continually making deserved the gratitude of the whole profession.

#### A Little Episode from Thomas Hardy's "A Laodicean."

The President thinks members will be interested to read the following from Mr. Thomas Hardy, O.M. :—

*Max Gate, Dorchester, 29th April 1920.*

DEAR MR. SIMPSON,—It has given me much pleasure to renew mental contact, as I may call it, with the R.I.B.A. after so many years through your kindness in sending the JOURNAL of that body, in which I have been greatly interested to read the opening remarks in your article on "A War Memorial of the Last Century." You may be amused to learn that I had quite forgotten the little episode you quote from "A Laodicean," and have no more idea than you why the two Fellows of the Institute did not suspect foul play in noting the singular resemblance of the two designs. Well, as you say, the matter is closed. As I have informed the Secretary, I feel truly honoured by nomination to the Hon. Fellowship.—Believe me, sincerely yours,

THOMAS HARDY.

The President's article appeared in the JOURNAL for 24th April. The same issue records on p. 296 Mr. Hardy's nomination as Hon. Fellow of the Institute.

#### Garden Party in Honour of Ex-Service Members.

The President has suggested that the Royal Institute should take occasion to entertain and welcome home its members who have returned after serving in

H.M. Forces during the war. The proposal is cordially supported by the Council and—in view of the large numbers concerned—they have decided to hold a Reception and Garden Party at the Zoological Gardens on the day following the first Anniversary of the signing of Peace (29th June next). Tickets will be issued to each Member and Licentiate (with a lady) on application to the Secretary R.I.B.A.

#### The National Gallery.

A portion of the National Gallery lately relinquished by the Ministry of Munitions was reopened to the public last week. *The Times* of the 29th April gave the following description of the new arrangements :—

A small ante-room to the main Collection has been devoted entirely to pictures of classical or profane subjects of the kind which a Prince of the Renaissance might have collected to show his interest in the revival of learning. Here are such old favourites as the "Procris" of Piero di Cosimo, the "Mars and Venus" of Botticelli, the "Rape of Helen" by Benozzo Gozzoli, and examples of Mantegna, Bronzino, and Giorgione.

In sharp contrast with this ante-room are the Dome and the four vaulted galleries which radiate from it. The cruciform shape of this part of the building has been utilised to transform it into what is in general aspect a Renaissance church. The place of the High Altar is taken by the Ansidei Raphael, flanked by the famous Masaccio, and the rare Gentile da Fabriano, lent by his Majesty the King. The remainder of this "choir" is occupied as of old by the unique collection of works by Carlo Crivelli. The south transept is devoted to the largest altar-pieces of the Venetian School, and the north to those of the Florentine and allied schools. Among these last is the famous altar-piece by Pesellino, of which the various fragments have now been united, thanks to the generosity of the King, who lent the most important of them from his collection.

Four of the largest altar-pieces fill the walls of the Octagon under the Dome; the one place in the gallery in which their scale no longer appears overwhelming. The effect of massing these great religious pictures together is not only to show them, for the first time since they left Italy, in an atmosphere similar to that for which they were originally designed, but also to illustrate the unparalleled wealth of the gallery in works of this rare order. No church or gallery in Europe can show such an assemblage of Renaissance masterpieces as that which is now on view at Trafalgar Square.

#### Victoria and Albert Museum.

An exhibition of recent accessions, by gift and purchase, to the Department of Engraving, Illustration and Design has been arranged in Room 132 of the Victoria and Albert Museum. The exhibits include a group of old master drawings, mainly from a recent bequest by the late Bernard H. Webb, notably those by Perino del Vaga, Primaticcio and Perugino, together with some important ceiling designs by Sir James Thornhill.

Modern draughtsmanship and design is well represented by a series of original studies by Frank Brangwyn, R.A., for his painted decorations in the Great Hall of the Skinners' Company, and by a collection of drawings by the late Sir E. J. Poynter, P.R.A. The Poynter drawings range from sketches for details of the Museum Grill Room, the Ashanti War Medal, and other decorative work, to



figure studies for well-known paintings, such as "Israel in Egypt" and "The Catapult."

Several water-colour and pencil drawings by Samuel Palmer are exhibited, together with a fine series of his etchings, chiefly the gift of the late Mrs. J. Merrick Head, of Bath, at one time an intimate friend of the artist. An item of kindred interest is shown in a first proof of Edward Calvert's woodcut, "The Ploughman," which Calvert gave to Palmer in the early days of their friendship, when both were young and ardent disciples of Blake.

Among modern etchings recently acquired are examples of Bauer, Chahine, Lepere, McBey, Robins, Strang, Shepperson and Zorn. Among lithographs of note are those by Brangwyn, Charles Shannon, J. Poortenaar, G. Bellows, Jonas, etc., while the revival of woodcutting is represented by the work of Bibbings, Ludovic Rodo, Raffé, Molly Power and Mrs. Raverat.

Two original poster designs, made for the Underground Railway, by E. A. Cox and F. Gregory Brown, are shown side by side with copies of the posters as published. Of special interest are some designs for Norwich printed fabrics and shawls made in the early part of last century. In their combination of black and purple, and use of "jazz" patterns, they strike a curiously modern note.

#### Proposed Remedy for Dearth of City Offices.

On the motion of Mr. W. W. Green, who said that the lack of office accommodation in the City was greatly hampering our export trade, the City Corporation on the 28th April referred to the City Lands and Bridge House Estates Committees the consideration of the question as to what steps it was practicable to take to enable buildings to be carried to a greater height than the present restrictions of the London Building Act imposed.

#### The "Daily Mail" Ideal Village.

*The Daily Mail* announces that it is organising a permanent exhibition to demonstrate new methods of house construction. Subject to a suitable site being found in the immediate neighbourhood of London, firms who are devising and promoting new methods of construction will be invited to erect specimen cottages in *The Daily Mail* Ideal Village. After the buildings have been kept open for public exhibition for housing authorities and others, they will be sold by auction for immediate occupation. The exhibition will probably be open for three months, so that the buildings should be available for sale by the winter.

The promoters claim that the Ideal Village will be unique in that each house will be built of a different material or by a different method. They state that the village will be laid out by one of the greatest authorities on town planning in the world, and that the exhibiting firms can be relied on to secure the best architectural talent available to design their specimen cottages.

The Ministry of Agriculture is to be invited to show an Ideal Allotment as a permanent exhibition in the village, and also an Ideal Plantation of Fruit Trees. Spaces will be placed at the disposal of the Ministry to demonstrate bee, poultry, and other small live-stock rearing.

#### Reinstatement.

Mr. GEORGE FREDERICK ELY, of 49 Sutherland Avenue, W.9, has been reinstated as Associate of the Royal Institute.

#### The Annual Elections: New Nominations.

The following nominations have been made by members in conformity with By-law 33:—

##### *As Vice-President.*

SEARLES-WOOD: HERBERT DUNCAN [F.]. Nominated by Sydney Perks, Max Clarke, W. Henry White, J. A. Gotch, Wm. Woodward, Herbert W. Wills, David Barclay Niven, *Fellows*.

##### *As Members of Council.*

FRASER: PERCIVAL MAURICE [F.]. Nominated by W. Henry White, Wm. Woodward, David Barclay Niven, Herbert W. Wills, George Hubbard, Max Clarke, *Fellows*; C. E. Hutchinson, *Associate*.

GILL: CHARLES LOVETT [F.]. Nominated by A. E. Richardson, S. D. Adshead, Stanley C. Ramsey, Arthur Stratton, George Hubbard, D. Barclay Niven, Herbert Wigglesworth, *Fellows*.

JOSEPH: DELISSA [F.]. Nominated by J. Douglas Mathews, Walter J. Burrows, Richard M. Roe, Henry T. Gordon, F. Adams Smith, F. T. W. Goldsmith, Percy B. Tubbs, *Fellows*.

##### *As Associate-Members of Council.*

LOWRY: ROBERT [A.]. Nominated by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, E. Stanley Hall, Henry M. Fletcher, Maurice E. Webb, *Fellows*; G. D. Gordon Hake, Eric R. Jarrett, *Associates*.

SHEPPARD: ARTHUR WILLIAM [A.]. Nominated by C. Stanley Peach, Henry Tanner, G. Topham Forrest, *Fellows*; Frederick R. Hiorns, E. P. Wheeler, W. T. Sadler, *Associates*.

BUCKNELL: LEONARD HOLCOMBE [A.]. Nominated by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, E. Stanley Hall, Henry M. Fletcher, Maurice E. Webb, *Fellows*; G. D. Gordon Hake, Eric R. Jarrett, *Associates*.

##### *As Members of the Practice Committee.*

CHATTERTON: FREDERICK [F.]. Nominated by Alfred W. S. Cross, Martin S. Briggs, W. Gilmour Wilson, A. E. Richardson, *Fellows*; William E. Couch, T. Gordon Ellis, Kensington Gammell, *Associates*.

CLARKE: MAX [F.]. Nominated by Herbert A. Satchell, Fred W. Marks, Sydney Perks, C. H. Brodie, Wm. Woodward, *Fellows*; C. T. Palmer, Bernard W. H. Scott, *Associates*.

GOSLETT: HAROLD [F.]. Nominated by Alfred W. S. Cross, Herbert W. Wills, W. Henry White, H. D. Searles-Wood, Wm. Woodward, *Fellows*; W. R. Davidge, C. E. Hutchinson, *Associates*.

#### Attendances at Council and Standing Committee Meetings, 1919-20.

##### COUNCIL (15 meetings).

*Members of Council.*—John W. Simpson, *President*, 10; Prof. S. D. Adshead, *Vice-President*, 9; A. W. S. Cross, *Vice-President*, 15; Walter Cave, *Vice-President*, 12; E. Guy Dawber, *Vice-President*, 14; Henry T. Hare, *Past President*, 1; Ernest Newton, R.A., *Past President*, 1; Arthur Keen, *Hon. Secretary*, 14; Robert Atkinson, 5; Sir John J. Burnet, 1; Major Harry Barnes, M.P., 4; Max Clarke, 12; H. P. Burke Downing, 12; Sir Banister Fletcher, 13; W. Curtis Green, 11; George Hubbard, 13; J. J. Joass, 9; Prof. W. R. Lethaby, 0; H. V. Lanchester, 3; T. Geoffrey Lucas, 7; Andrew N. Prentice, 6; C. Stanley Peach, 9; H. D. Searles-Wood, 15; Prof. F. M. Simpson, 4; G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., 5; Paul Waterhouse, 8.

*Associate Members of Council.*—Prof. Patrick Abercrombie, 1; Horace Cubitt, 13; W. R. Davidge, 4; E. Stanley Hall, 11; J. Stockdale Harrison, 1; Digby L. Solomon, 14.

*Representatives of Allied Societies.*—H. T. Buckland, 8; C. S. Errington, 0; J. Alfred Gotch, 3; W. Carby Hall, 0;

John Keppie, 1; Llewellyn Kitchen, 4; Isaac Taylor, 7; H. G. Watkins, 4; George Watt, 0.

*Representative of Architectural Association.*—Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., 13.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES.

*Art* (5 Meetings).—*Fellows*: Ernest Newton, R.A., 0; J. Alfred Gotch, 0; G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., 1; S. K. Greenslade, 0; J. J. Joass, 0; Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., 0; Halsey Ricardo, 3; Prof. F. M. Simpson, 3; Arthur Keen, 3; H. P. Burke Downing, 0. *Associates*: J. B. Fulton, 1; Maxwell Ayrton, 0; H. S. East, 4; L. Rome Guthrie, 1; Edwin Gunn, 0; W. A. Webb, 5. *Appointed by Council*: Walter Cave, 4; Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., 0; Harry Redfern, 0; H. T. Buckland, 0; Walter Tapper, 0.

*Literature* (5 Meetings).—*Fellows*: P. Leslie Waterhouse, 3; H. M. Fletcher, 4; Arthur Stratton, 2; E. A. Rickards, 0; A. E. Richardson, 1; H. H. Statham, 5; C. Harrison Townsend, 3; Hubert C. Corlette, 4; H. H. Wigglesworth, 3; Louis Ambler, 5. *Associates*: W. G. Newton, 0; Prof. Patrick Abercrombie, 0; A. T. Edwards, 4; W. Henry Ward, 4; J. Alan Slater, 2; J. H. Worthington, 1. *Appointed by Council*: E. Guy Dawber, 1; W. Carby Hall, 0; Theodore Fyfe, 0; H. G. Ibberson, 0; Martin S. Briggs, 3.

*Practice* (8 Meetings).—*Fellows*: Henry V. Ashley, 3; W. H. Atkin-Berry, 4; William G. Hunt, 6; D. Barclay Niven, 4; Sydney Perks, 6; F. A. Powell, 1; Herbert A. Satchell, 7; W. Gillbee Scott, 5; F. W. Troup, 1; Wm. Woodward, 7. *Associates*: Horace W. Cubitt, 8; H. V. Milnes Emerson, 7; K. Gammell, 5; H. H. Golding, 6; C. E. Hutchinson, 4; J. Douglas Scott, 7. *Appointed by Council*: A. W. S. Cross, 8; Delissa Joseph, 3; John Keppie, 0; John Slater, 3; Isaac Taylor, 3.

*Science* (8 Meetings).—*Fellows*: H. Percy Adams, 1; Max Clarke, 5; A. O. Collard, 8; P. M. Fraser, 6; George Hornblower, 2; George Hubbard, 3; C. Stanley Peach, 3; Henry A. Saul, 2; H. D. Searles-Wood, 5; W. Henry White, 4. *Associates*: C. A. Daubney, 8; G. Leonard Elkington, 0; E. Stanley Hall, 2; J. H. Markham, 3; Herbert Shepherd, 2; Digby L. Solomon, 5. *Appointed by Council*: Prof. S. D. Adshead, 2; O. C. Hills, 2; Alan E. Munby, 7; H. G. Watkins, 0; J. E. Franck, 7.

#### Honours and Appointments.

SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD, R.A. [F.], has had conferred upon him the following distinctions:—*Officier de l'Ordre de Leopold II.*, by the King of the Belgians; *Degree of Litt.D.*, by the University of Liverpool.

MR. JOHN KEEPIE [F.], President of the Glasgow Institute of Architects, has been elected an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy.

#### ALLIED SOCIETIES.

##### Northern Branch: South Wales Institute of Architects.

A meeting of architects from Pontypridd, Merthyr, etc., was held at Pontypridd on the 23rd April (Mr. Ivor P. Jones, President of the South Wales Institute of Architects, presiding), and the new Branch for the Northern District was formed. The following Executive Committee was elected: *Chairman*, Mr. E. W. G. Richards, of Merthyr; *Secretary*, Mr. T. Edwin Rees, of Merthyr; *Treasurer*, Mr. Jacob Rees, of Pentre; *Members*, Mr. J. Llewellyn Smith [Licentiate], Aberdare; Mr. G. Vincent Evans [Licentiate], Pontypridd; Mr. T. W. Millar, Mountain Ash; Mr. W. D. Morgan, Pentre; Mr. A. Almond, Pontypridd (Associates' representative). The representatives of the Northern Branch on the Council of the South Wales Institute of Architects were also elected as follows: Mr. E. W. G. Richards, Mr. W. D. Morgan, Mr. J. Llewellyn Smith, Mr. A. Almond.

#### A False Death Announcement.

We are glad to be able to state that the announcement that appeared in the JOURNAL of the death of Mr. FRANK MOORE KIRBY, *Licentiate*, of Essex Road, Gravesend, is incorrect. Mr. Kirby himself contradicts the statement in a letter dated the 3rd inst. It is found that a copy of the JOURNAL posted to Mr. Kirby in May last year was returned unopened with the word "Deceased" written on the wrapper. As notification of death is sometimes made in this way, there was no reason to suspect its genuineness in the present case. We much regret the error and tender our sincere apologies to Mr. Kirby.

#### Mr. Victor D. Horsburgh.

Mr. Victor D. Horsburgh [F.], *Institute Essay Medallist* 1907, formerly of Edinburgh, who has been engaged for ten years in an official capacity designing the branch buildings of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, has returned to spend three months' leave mostly in Scotland. He has for the past two years been Chairman of the Toronto Chapter of the Ontario Association of Architects, which is a representative body in affiliation with the Royal Canadian Institute of Architects and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

#### Ivory Cross Exhibition and Sale.

The Ivory Cross provides dental treatment for those who are really poor. Thousands of sailors, soldiers, discharged men and civilians were benefited by the Fund during the War. The Fund is now suffering badly from lack of money, and its future is dependent on the support that will be given by the public to the Ivory Cross Exhibition and Sale arranged to take place at the R.I.B.A. Galleries, 23A Maddox Street, W.1, May 12 to 27th, 1920 (from 10 to 6 daily). Pictures of every variety and price will be on view. Admission: 1s. 3d. (including tax), or by Mascot from the offices of the Fund, 10 New Cavendish Street, W. H.R.H. Princess Arthur of Connaught is President of the Exhibition.

#### Officers Wanted for Territorial Army.

We are asked to announce that officers with technical qualifications are urgently required for service in the Territorial Royal Engineers. Age limit on first appointment as Second-Lieutenant up to and excluding 31st birthday. Officers have only to provide themselves with service dress. Those who have not previously served will be given a grant to meet the cost of uniform. The amount is not yet fixed, but will cover all necessary expense. Full particulars of service can be obtained on application to Adjutant, 4th Battalion Royal Engineers, 2nd London Division (T.A.), Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, S.W. 3.

#### Part-Time Lectureship.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a part-time lecturer in architecture at the Technical Institute, Newport (Mon.). Candidates should be qualified to prepare students for the Examination of the R.I.B.A. The salary offered is from £300 to £350 per annum, according to qualifications and experience. Applications should be sent in immediately to the Principal.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

Monday, 3rd May 1920.

**GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON BUILDING.**—The Council unanimously endorsed the President's letters to *The Times* on this subject, and decided to take further vigorous measures to protest against the Government's policy in regard to the building trade.

**OTTAWA GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS COMPETITION.**—A letter was sent to the Canadian Government strongly protesting against the treatment of successful competitors in the first stage of this competition.

**INTER-ALLIED HOUSING CONGRESS.**—Professor S. D. Adshead, Professor Patrick Abercrombie, and Mr. W. Curtis Green appointed to represent the R.I.B.A.

**THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.**—The Council voted a donation of £500 to the A.A. Endowment Fund, in addition to the usual annual grant of £100.

**COMPETITIONS.**—The Council vetoed the following competitions: Cleethorpes Peace Memorial, Arthuret War Memorial, Wards Hill Improvement, Batley, Lockerbie War Memorial, Hornsey War Memorial.

**PORTRAIT OF AUGUSTUS CHARLES PUGIN.**—The Council purchased for the R.I.B.A. Collection James Green's portrait of Augustus Charles Pugin.

## COMPETITIONS.

**Gatley War Memorial ; Hawick War Memorial ; Bradford-on-Avon War Memorial.**

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above Competitions are unsatisfactory. The Competitions Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the Competitions.

**Cleethorpes Peace Memorial ; Arthuret War Memorial ; Wards Hill Improvement, Batley ; Lockerbie War Memorial ; Hornsey War Memorial.**

Members and Licentiates of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above competitions, because the conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

By Order of the Council,  
IAN MACALISTER, *Secretary*.

## Architectural Appointment in the Malaya.

An experienced architect is required for service in the Malaya. He must be competent to advise on all questions in connection with building construction and able to initiate schemes. The candidate engaged would be first trained in the method of construction employed in the country, and this would be followed up by a course of tuition in Scandinavia. The engagement would be for three years. Salary \$500-\$550-\$600 per month respectively for the three years (say £58, £64, £70). Candidates should apply in the first place to the Secretary R.I.B.A.

## MINUTES. XIII.

At the Annual General Meeting, held Monday, 2nd May, 1920, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. Walter Cave, *Vice-President*, in the Chair; 27 Fellows (including 12 members of the Council), 26 Associates (including 2 members of the Council), and 6 Licentiates; the Minutes of the meeting held 12th April, having been published in the *JOURNAL*, were taken as read, and signed as correct.

The decease was announced of Arthur Ernest Billing, elected Associate 1881.

The Report of the Council for the official year 1919-20 having been formally presented and taken as read, its adoption was moved by the Chairman and seconded by Professor S. D. Adshead [F.].

The Report was then discussed, and the meeting unanimously

**RESOLVED**, That the Report of the Council for the official year 1919-20 be approved and adopted.

Mr. Delissa Joseph [F.] moved

That the Council be requested to call a public meeting of architects, surveyors, builders, operatives, property owners, and members of Allied Societies and other bodies interested, to protest against the present method of applying the "Luxury" clauses of the Housing Act, and with the view of sending a delegation to the Prime Minister to point out the national danger involved in such application.

Mr Herbert W. Wills [F.] seconded the motion.

The Chairman accepted the Resolution, stating that it had been decided at the Council meeting that afternoon to take some such action as that suggested by Mr. Joseph, and that the resolution would strengthen the hands of the Council.

The Resolution was thereupon put to the meeting and was carried unanimously.

The Chairman formally presented to the meeting the list of attendances at the Council and Standing Committee meetings held during the Session.

On the motion of the Chairman, a vote of thanks was passed by acclamation to Mr. A. H. Goslett [F.] and Mr. C. E. Hutchinson [A.] for their services as Hon. Auditors, and the same members were nominated Hon. Auditors for the ensuing year.

On the motion of Mr. W. Henry White [F.] a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Secretary and all the members of the staff for the excellence of their service for the Institute during the past year.

The proceedings closed at 9.50.

## NOTICES.

The FOURTEENTH GENERAL MEETING (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20 will be held Monday, 17th May 1920, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Meeting held 3rd May 1920; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election; to announce the names of candidates nominated for election.

To read the following Paper:

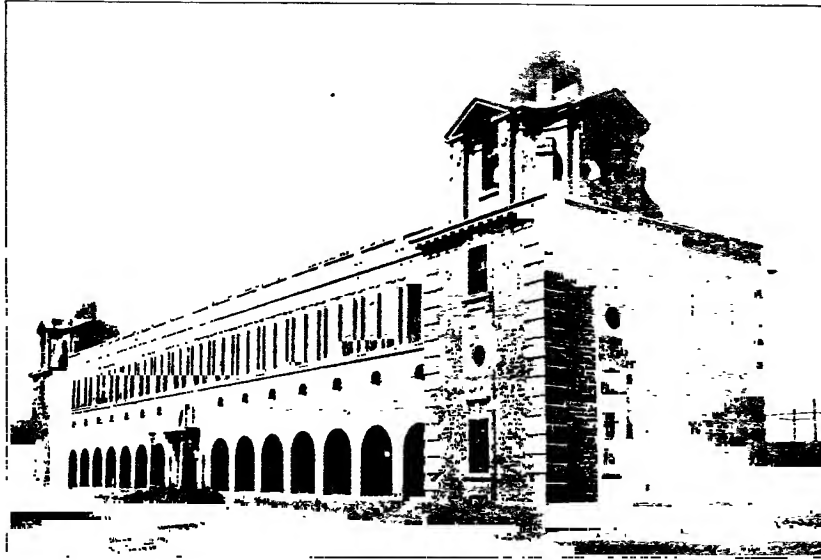
## THE TWO GREAT RAILWAY STATIONS OF NEW YORK.

By BEN J. LUBSCHEZ, Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

## Election of Members, 7th June.

The following further nomination has been received for the election on 7th June:—As HON. ASSOCIATE—

PIPER: EDWARD WILLIAM HARVEY, of "Gyppeswyk," 12 Elms Road, Clapham Common, S.W.4.



John Begg, Architect

POONA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE—CHEMISTRY BLOCK.

## ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA.

By JOHN BEGG [*F.*], Consulting Architect to the Government of India.

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 12th April, 1920.

THE title for this paper suggested by the Royal Institute was "Indian Architecture." I have ventured to change it to "Architecture in India" for special reasons. In the first place I am not prepared to treat the subject from an archaeological point of view. The architect is apt to be a bad archaeologist, and *vice versa*: and however poor an attempt I may have made to supply good architecture, still it has been such an attempt, and I should be inconsistent were I to try to give you good archaeology. Yet archaeology, in a sense, is bound up with the matter. In the second place, it is out of my power to undertake more than a very partial survey.

My object, then, is first to try to set before you a picture of the situation to-day of architectural practice in India, and, secondly, to attempt to find in the more prominent points of that picture a peg or two on which to hang a few reflections as to tendencies which may, or may not, develop in the future.

I may say at once that the architect's profession in the country is a struggling one, which is very far from having yet "found itself." The modern architect is a new thing in India. Before the beginning of the twentieth century, the Public Works Department, the great building agency, though it officially professed to recognise among its works a category of "architectural buildings" as distinct from mere buildings, did not number a single professionally trained architect among its members. When, in the year 1900, the Government of Bombay decided to create the post of a "Consulting Architect," that government thereby inaugurated a new era. In 1901 I was called upon to occupy the new appointment, and went to India prepared for novel experiences. But I was hardly prepared to find, as I soon did, how little it was understood what an architect was, or what his functions were. Mr. Ransome followed me about two years later as "Consulting Architect to the Government of India" (the position I now hold), and our numbers soon began steadily, if slowly, to grow, till, in 1914, they had reached nearly to a score. But even now, after twenty years of work, so few comparatively are we, so split up are we into isolated units, so little has been done in the direction of co-ordination of

effort, and so tied are the hands of all in the inevitable web of official red-tape, so conspicuous by its absence is anything worthy of the name of a "school" in the larger sense, and above all so "official" and therefore, from our point of view, uncomprehending is the more intelligent section of the community—so apathetic the other—that even now I am not sure that what an architect is and does is much better, or at any rate much more widely, understood than it was then. One soon met, and, alas! has kept on meeting, the most astoundingly crass ideas on this point. For instance, the architect designs—that is, makes pleasing pictures of buildings—but has no concern with the carrying out of any ideas these may convey. The architect "designs," but it is the "engineer" who builds. Again an architect is concerned with only the external appearance of a building, and not with its internal arrangement. Observe, it is implied that the interior of a building has no appearance, and the exterior no arrangement! I remember once, when the design of an important town-hall was entrusted to me, a building to stand in the narrow streets of a busy "bazar," that a message was sent me from a high quarter to this effect:—"Do ask Mr. Begg, whatever he does, to make it castellated"! Never a design is produced but its author is expected to define exactly to what *style* it belongs, and woe betide him if his reply betrays hesitation. No use attempting to get out of it by allusions to "the Ionic order," or similar efforts at evasive humour. An architect is expected to be as devoid of humour, and as full of academic definitions, as the rest of the population. An architect, it is said, was once demiofficially ordered to remove himself from the capital of a certain Government for nothing more than a like embarrassing display of humour. (Will young aspirants for Indian careers please note carefully, for information and guidance?)

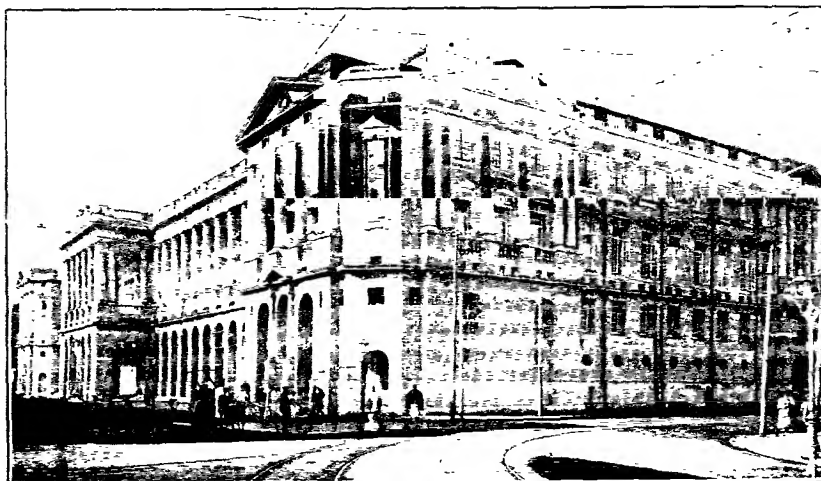
Again, the country bristles with amateur architectural critics, whose dicta are deferred to in exact ratio to their place on the "Royal Warrant of Precedence." The opinion of a civilian of over twelve years' standing, or, say, of a Lieutenant Colonel, will outweigh that of any architect even on an architectural point. A full Colonel's, or a Collector's, will make or mar the success of a cathedral. A General—above, say, the rank of Brigadier—certainly a Lieutenant-Governor, may blast the reputation of an architect-member of the Royal Academy. Did a Viceroy frown—but fortunately they are an amiable people, Viceroys—I tremble to think of the result: a Viceregal frown at full power might surely cause the very stones themselves of Conduit Street to fly to powder, spite of the intervening thousands of miles. India, you see, is nothing if not feudal. Since the downfall of the Russian and Teutonic Empires, it is, perhaps the last stronghold of feudalism on earth—a saying by no means entirely in India's disparagement, at any rate from the architect's point of view.

This is a digression. I was tempted, and I fell. It is, however, intended to emphasise the fact that the architect in India is handicapped at the outset by a universal ignorance of his functions, and by apathy as to his aims, such as you at home have no conception of. He has no track cut for him, no rails laid for him. He must lay his own rails as he goes along, hewing his way through a jungle of prejudice, misconception, scant appreciation, and even jealousy. He is beset by temptations, to "play to the gallery," to take the fatal line of least resistance, to turn to this side or that, rather than follow the direct lead of the "Mistress Art."

And yet there is no country in the world where you see building operations more in evidence than India. Nowhere are the erection of new buildings and the alteration and adaptation of existing ones in no light-heartedly undertaken. Nowhere, I think, are those forces of change and development that find an outward expression in building operations more active. Nowhere are materials more plentiful, and also labour—of a sort. No country in the world has a more imposing architectural heritage from past ages. Nowhere, in short, are there at the present day so many circumstances pointing to opportunities for the architect of energy and capacity. Yet, in all that vast continent, inhabited by over 300 millions of our fellow-subjects, the number of really qualified architects is under twenty in Government service, and a somewhat smaller number in private practice! From the above, in comparison to similar data as to other countries in the world, I think that, without over-valuing the profession to

which the majority of us in this room belong, any expert manipulator of statistics might work out a fairly exact index-number representing India's place among nations in the order of modern civilisation!

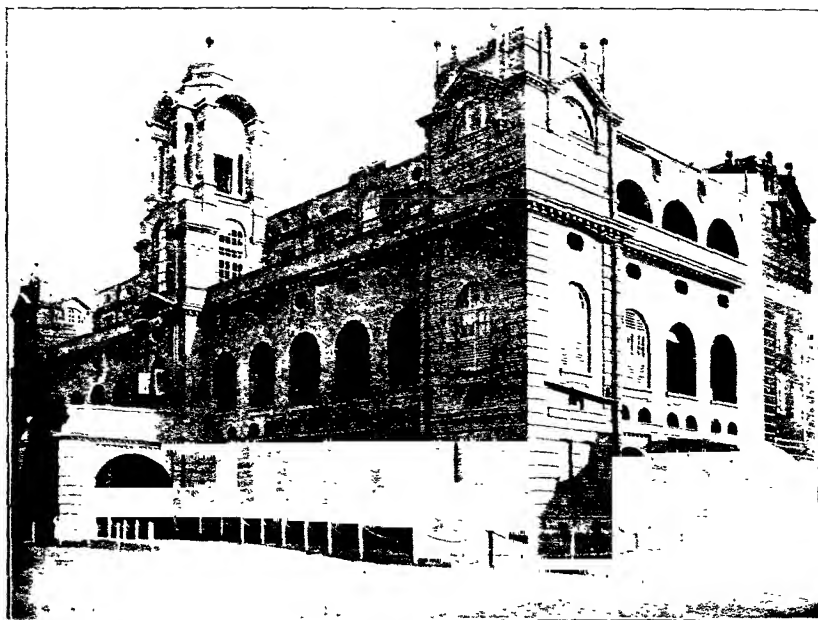
And now, how can I give you an account of what architects have done during the period to which I have alluded, without running to tedious length on the one hand, or reading a bald, and equally



James Faussole and John Beag Architects.

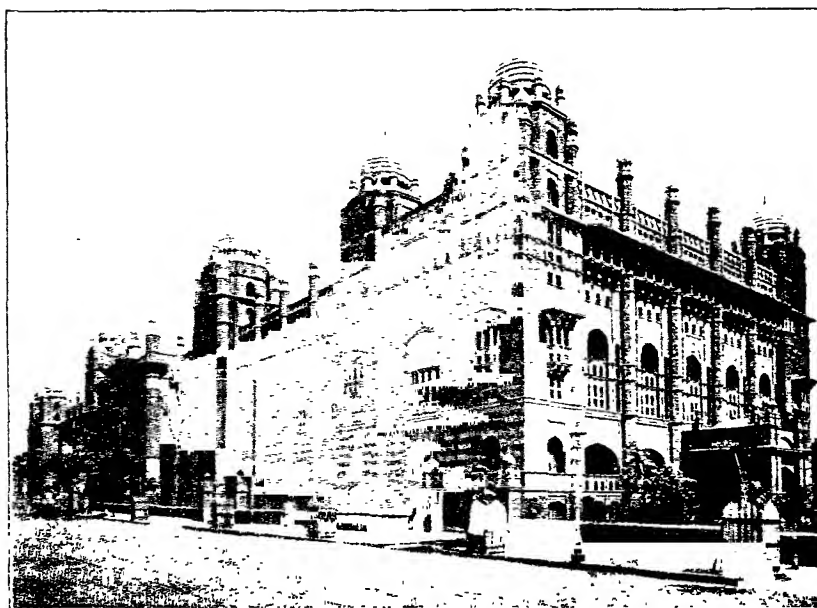
NEW SECRETARIAT, COUNCIL HOUSE STREET, CALCUTTA.

tedious, catalogue on the other? Speaking for the Government architects, I may say that we have all been extremely busy, and the mere aggregate of our executed works, if paid for at ordinary professional rates, would certainly have cost the public exchequer in fees a great deal more—to put it with studied mildness—than it has actually cost in salaries and office expenses. If the mass of our



John Beag Architect.

FOURTH BLOCK, CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE.



John Begg, Architect.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, BOMBAY. SOUTH-EAST VIEW

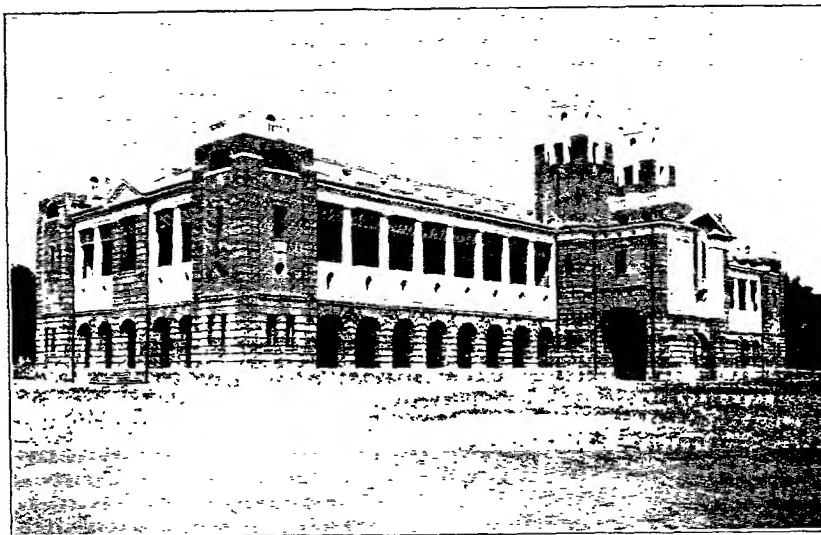
unexecuted designs were added, a total would be reached that would be somewhat staggering. Similarly, from instances of which I know, it could, I honestly believe, be shown that our employment, in place of the old departmental process, has led to actual savings to Government such as would alone



GENERAL POST OFFICE, BOMBAY. INTERIOR OF PUBLIC HALL



justify it. Its architects have been cheap to Government. Have they, at the same time, been successful in avoiding the attribute proverbially associated with cheapness? Of that, Gentlemen, it is neither for me, nor, if I may say so, for you to be the judges. We, naturally, believe our work has been good, and are personally interested in having it so acknowledged. You, on the other hand, as representing the private profession, and being therefore presumably conscientious objectors on principle to the official architect, are suspect of prejudice in a contrary direction. (I should like to step aside here into a parenthesis to say that I deprecate the application to India of the principle that objects to official architects. I should like to assure you—but you won't believe me—that public mentality is of so peculiar a structure in India that the profession will never begin to make headway there in private practice till Government not only introduces it in the person of the official architect—it has already done so—but teaches the Indian public how and what to think of it by an even more extended and flattering demonstration of its own appreciation than it may have been understood to entertain hitherto. I grant you good reason for your principle in England. Here it is sound in the best interests of architects, of the public, and of the work that concerns both. Not so in India—not yet, anyhow, by a long



John Dugg Architect.

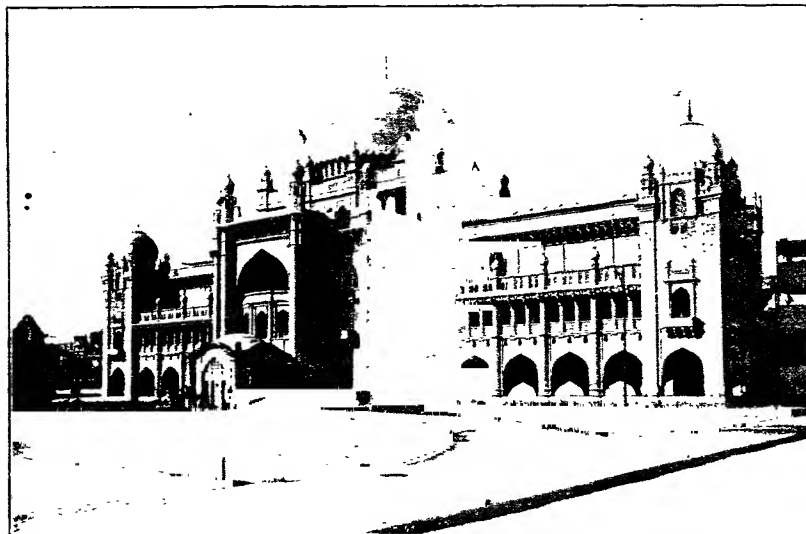
NEW JUDGES' COURT, BENARES

way. As has been the case with all other professions which have "caught on" in India, the way in that country will never be clear and free for the adequate private profession, which I should like to see established, till the position of the Government architects has become stronger, and so yields many more official pioneers to clear it. That is the truth, believe it or not.)

To go back, it is probable that you, gentlemen of the Royal Institute, and I are both equally interested parties in the question of the quality of our work in India. And, in so far as you may not be so, it would still be incorrect for you to judge our work by the only standards you have, those of Home. You and we, however and moreover, are doubtless at one in our reluctance to submit the point to the verdict of any mere lay authority. Therefore there seems to be nothing for it but that we should leave the matter to the judgment of a posterity sufficiently remote and sufficiently in possession (let us hope) of a just standard.

So far, I do not claim that we have done more than pioneer work. We have been feeling our way in the dim light of dawn, as it were. Each one of us has been toiling away independently in our several provinces and spheres. We have had little opportunity to meet and compare notes. Wisely or otherwise, as you might judge, could all the circumstances be put before you, it has been decided that

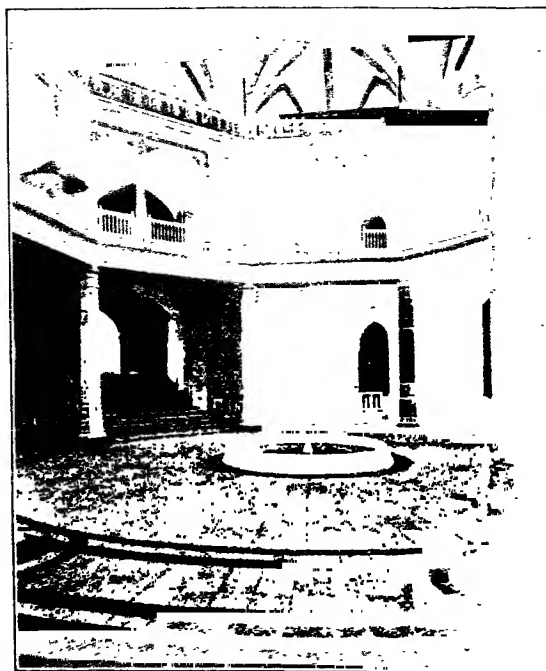
co-ordination of effort was not expedient to be attempted. Therefore our work has been of the nature of a number of sporadic experiments, the keynote in each case being derived from the individual's reading of specific conditions (and it is remarkable how these can vary in a big area like India) such as



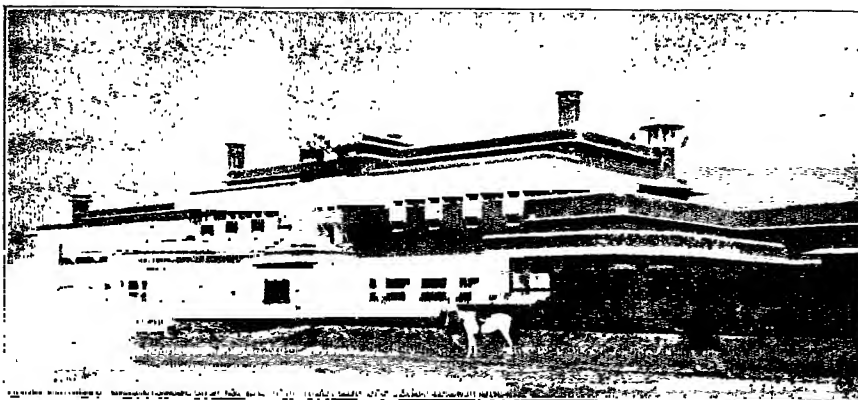
George Witté, Architect

PRINCE OF WALES' MUSEUM, BOMBAY. EXTERIOR OF ARTS BUILDING.

those of climate, materials, labour, surroundings and the purposes of the particular building. For instance, the two large towns, Calcutta and Bombay, sound totally different notes to the architect. Bombay is energetic, exuberant, sparkling, breezy, and has building stone of many kinds and colours.

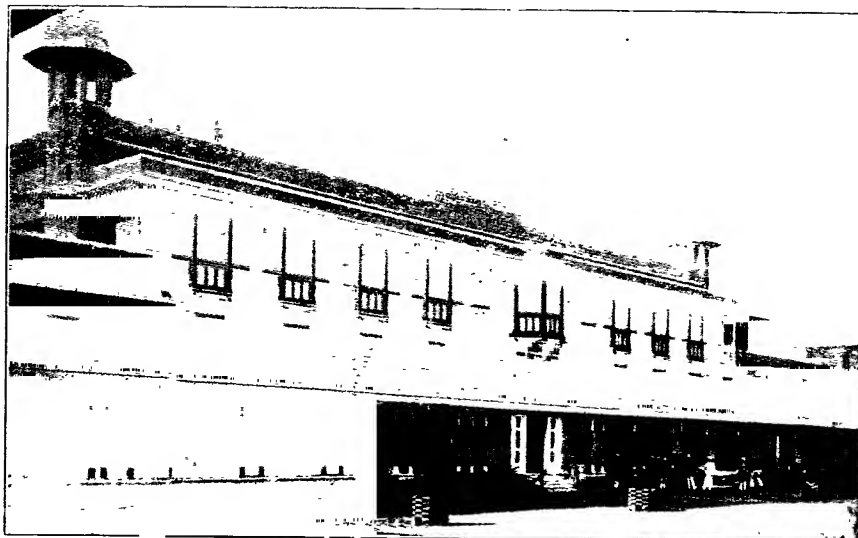


PRINCE OF WALES' MUSEUM, BOMBAY. INTERIOR OF ENTRANCE HALL.

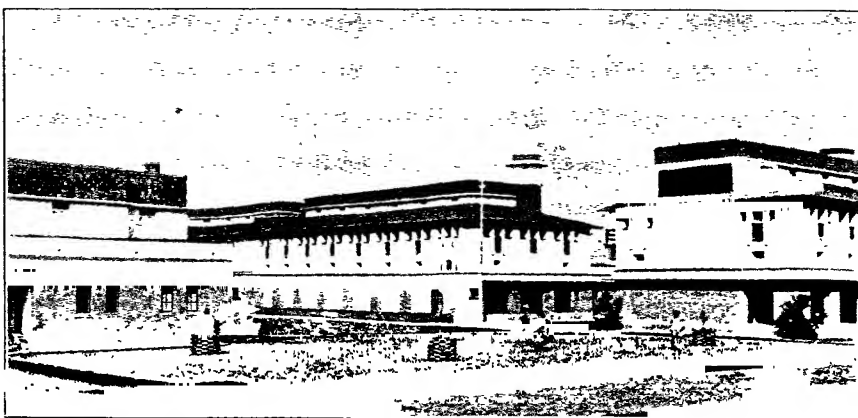


John Begg, Architect

LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, DELHI.  
MAIN COLLEGE BUILDING



LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, DELHI. REAR VIEW.



LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, DELHI

Calcutta is calm, respectable, orthodox, and its leading materials are brick and plaster. A massive (apparently) type of Classic renaissance, by no means to be sneered at, early asserted itself there, and has retained its hold unshaken by comparatively recent outbreaks of a travesty of it. A similar expression, in spite of early brick and plaster examples by the Portuguese, never took kindly to the atmosphere of Bombay, which remained to a greater extent style-free, with, however, a somewhat licentious leaning to experiments in the Gothic manner, after it had realised its wealth in building stones. On your dyspeptic days you are apt to find Calcutta's architecture dull and smug—Bombay's bumptious, even riotous. In your more genial moments you might apply the adjective "sane" to Calcutta, and to Bombay "vital."

The Madras note, again, is less easy to sum up. A word expressive of a position somewhere between Calcutta and Bombay might do it. But Madras town is only just beginning to wake up to modern metropolitan life, and has barely got to the point that the other two cities reached fifty years ago. Every town, every country district in India, has its own individual note, its own variety of conditions of climate, materials, labour and race peculiarities, etc.

I am now going to show you a few pictures of work by our architects in different parts of India. Unfortunately an undue proportion of them is of buildings by myself, but at short notice I have not been able to get the photographs I should have desired. I should have liked, moreover, to show you some of the works of private men, of Messrs. Stevens and Gregson of Bombay, for instance. This firm have done work all over India, and their mode of handling work in Bombay, Calcutta and elsewhere, would have illustrated the point I have just been dwelling on as to the different keynotes of places.\*

There is one very important result of the employment of architects which can hardly be gauged by the most copious exhibition of building-photographs which I could possibly have put before you, but which I regard as not the least of our achievements in a country that is the slowest to move, and the most difficult in the world to impress. I claim it to be due to the architects that there has of late years been a very marked progress in building craft in certain specific directions. First, there has been an improvement in the making and handling of bricks. We were dismayed to find how little regard there was to those qualities in a brick which the architect looks to. Hardly one man in a thousand, of the many thousands engaged in building, knew the exact size of a brick, or what gauge it would build to. Time after time I have had to recast the half-inch details of buildings because of misleading information, and the discovery that the bricks could not, after all, be worked to the gauge agreed upon. That has become a thing of the past, and in most places of importance you can now rely on the data given you. Also, something has been done to standardize sizes. Again, the practice in handling bricks was hopeless. In Calcutta, for example, the bricks, none too shapely at that, were made some miles up the river. They were carted down to the water-side, and there dumped in heaps. Thence they were flung anyhow into barges and brought down to Calcutta, flung on shore, again flung into carts, and finally dumped once more at the building. Needless to say, after all this, they had no

\* The following lantern-slides were here presented:—(1) High School, Ahmedabad; (2) Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy School of Art, Bombay; (3) Poona Agricultural College laboratories; (4) Sanskrit Library, Benares; (5) Secretariat, Dacca; (6) Sarnath Museum, Benares; (7) Nagpur Secretariat; (8) Council House Street Secretariat, Calcutta; (9) Indian Museum, Calcutta; (10) Fourth block, Medical College, Calcutta; (11) Dining room, Government House, Ghanesh Khind, Poona; (12) Government Press, Dacca; (13) Temporary Secretariat, Delhi; (14) General Post Office, Bombay—view from the south-east; (15) General Post Office, Bombay—view of centre portion of front; (16) General Post Office, Bombay—interior of Public Hall; (17) Judges' Court, Benares; (18) Post Office, Agra; (19) Gwalior Residency, front view; (19a) Gwalior Residency, garden front; (20) Central Government offices, Poona—south elevation; (24) Central Telegraph Office,

Calcutta; (22) Quarters for General Officer Commanding, Rangoon; (23) Maymyo Cantonment Church; (24) Presbyterian Church, Jubbulpore; (25) Prince of Wales' Museum of Western India, Bombay; (26) Prince of Wales' Museum of Western India, interior of Entrance Hall; (27) Government House, Puri; (28) Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi—front; (29) Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi—rear of main building; (30) Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi—Students' Hostels; (31) Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi—Main Hospital Gateway; (32) British Infantry Barracks, New Cantonment, Delhi; (33) Mangla Head-regulator, Upper Jhelum Canal; (34) Karachi Port Trust Offices; (35) Post and Telegraph Office, Patna; (36) Additions to Government House, Lahore; (37) Græco-Bactrian Buddha from the Swat Valley, Peshawar; (38) Græco-Bactrian Buddha from the Swat Valley, Peshawar.

arrises left—but that was not thought to matter — all the more key for plaster, or, if a brick-faced effect were desired, the wall-surface was patched with mortar, then evenly coloured, and the whole beautifully tuck-pointed with neat white lines ! Naturally, the architects would have none of this, and the result, after much pegging away, has been seen in very marked improvements all round. I have in later years seen in India the best brickwork done that has come to my notice anywhere.

Similarly with stonework. There are no finer quarries or better raw material in the world than in India. But we found them indulging in the most slipshod methods of work. Jointing hopelessly wrong, work built half-finished and dressed afterwards, &c. I believe we have taught the Indian building trade a wrinkle or two in masonry. There used to be a most heart-breaking trick in use on the Bombay side. In finishing cut-stonework they would paint it all over with a wash of lime mixed with dust of the stone itself, obliterating not only dirt and mortar-stains but joints, tool-marks and other little “ blemishes ” as well ! The effect, till a monsoon or two had played on it, was that of rather roughly-done plaster-work. You may still find some of this art in progress, but not so much as formerly. It is the same with carpentry, joinery, wrought-iron, painter and glazier work, paper-hanging, &c., even down to the making of furniture and carpets. Moreover, we have done something to bring about the substitution of the plaster ceiling for the canvas and match-boarded ones of old time.

I may say here that I have found the Indian workman to be exceedingly intelligent and resourceful, also tractable and amenable to sympathetic treatment. His faults lie chiefly in his training, or the want of it. He is apt to be slipshod, careless and inaccurate. But show him that you are intelligently interested in his work, that you won't pass bad work and are ready to appreciate good ; let him see that you can respect his personality, and at the same time that you can teach him something, and he soon brings to bear his own interest and his readiness to learn. He soon acquires the habit of sharpening his tools, of regarding the sixteenths of an inch, of taking pains and pride in his work. Like all mankind, he shies at methods new to him ; but keep at him, and his intelligence, tractability and approbateness will soon bring him along to your side. When in Bombay I once worked out a method of constructing domes and domed vaults in brickwork, the merit of which was that no centering of any kind was required, to the great advantage of the work in economy as well as strength. The Bombay brick-masons had never dreamed of such a thing, and there was for a time like to be a strike on a small scale. But I stood firm, and found four bricklayers who consented to try. A small hemispherical dome, of about 20 feet diameter, was successfully completed, and subsequently others on a larger scale. I have had similar domes built by my method all over India up to a diameter of 50 feet without difficulty or mishap, and could now undertake to build one anywhere up to 60 feet, or even more. Indeed, there appears no limit within reason to which the method is not applicable. Prejudice has been quite overcome, and the method may be said to be the accepted one in the P.W.D. for the construction of such work, which is of considerable applicability to the uses of India. When I hear the Indian workman disparaged on the ground of his undue conservatism, untractableness and unadaptability, I always think of my brick domes. He is all right if you take him in the right way.

While on this point I would again allude to what I mentioned before as one of the chief disabilities of the architect in India—namely, the prevailing stupid idea that he has no concern with or responsibility for the construction of his buildings. It is easy to see how such an impression arose. In the days before there were any modern architects, the Public Works engineers and their satellites, with a certain number of retired Public Works men and others in private practice, did all the work. The need for the architect was first realised in the sphere of “ design,” and it was for that function that he was first imported, as a so-called “ specialist in design.” Hence the title of “ Consulting Architect ” borne by the Government men. The private architects have met the difficulty (without disturbing the impression) by styling themselves “ Architects and Engineers.” That does not mean that they claim to be more skilled than the average architect in the pursuit of “ x ” (though every architect in India should be rather above the average in that respect, if only because his work has to run the gauntlet

to a greater extent than at Home of the wholesome criticism of engineers), but just that they supervise building operations as well as prepare designs. But the Government men—who constitute the majority, both in number and, I think I may say, in qualifications—are still, with one exception, regarded as “design specialists.” As a result their influence is restricted. They do not come sufficiently into touch with material and work, and so even the function of their design-specialism suffers. The one exception, I am rather proud to say, I myself was instrumental in bringing about. I was permitted, while in Bombay, to add executive functions to my “paper” ones, and these, considerably extended, the Bombay architect still enjoys. As a result it can hardly be denied that the standard of work is now higher in Bombay than anywhere else in India, and the architect’s position there is the only one so far which is on a reasonably satisfactory basis. Elsewhere in India the disability still obtains, and is specially harmful in so far as it restricts our touch with the workpeople. I have nothing to say against those, the engineers and their satellites, who undertake the actual supervision of work. But surely it is reasonable that their touch cannot be the same, cannot be so sympathetic, so inspiring to the craftsman, as that of the architect, or which proceeds from him. It may be efficient from certain points of view, but it cannot but be cold, cold. To look for the best results from an architect in those conditions is something like expecting a violinist to do himself justice while playing with gloves on. If India is to be saved from some of the evils that have crept into the building crafts at home, if she is to enjoy the blessings of having her industrial life on a sound basis—namely, that on which a man is able to work not only for adequate wages, but for the interest and joy of the work itself—as I think she might (and we in Europe to-day can well realise what a benefit to the tone of the whole community’s life that would mean—little short of a road to the cure of all social ills), the architect’s gloves and other fetters at any rate will have to be laid aside.

If I were asked to say what it is that differentiates the architect’s attitude towards the work of the craftsman from that of other professional work-controllers, I should be inclined to reply that it is just that enthusiastic feeling for and interest in the work for its own sake, the material, texture, toolwork and handling, each for its own sake, bringing out and at the same time feeding on a like feeling and a like interest on the part of the workman. One has seen this, of course, in other work-controllers as well—in engineers, for instance, particularly mechanical engineers—but seldom, I think, to the same extent as in the architect. In him it is (or should be) bred in the bone. And nothing is more hopeless in relation to craft than the mere *fonctionnaire* attitude that is apt to be induced by Indian official life. From this, I believe, the architect, even the official architect, usually remains free, because and in so far as his own proper architect’s attitude has in his case “got there” first. On these grounds I seriously claim for the architect that he has possibilities of becoming in India a real force towards industrial and social well-being, provided he be given a fair field and—well, just a little favour!

I won’t dwell further on these matters of practical politics. Let us turn to what is to me by far the most enticing consideration connected with the architect’s position in India, the consideration, namely, of what ought to be his architectural policy, if I may use the expression, what ought to be his guiding principle in finding the key-note of his architectural expression, by which the suitability of the latter for the soil of India is to be judged. About the time of the initiation of the great Delhi project this question assumed some of the dimensions of a controversy. I do not wish to revive the controversy, at least in its former application to Delhi. In that application the matter has been handed over to the distinguished architects entrusted with the work. It is for them to produce their own solution in that particular and very special case, and for us to wait till we have seen the concrete expression of that solution—to wait longer, in fact, till something of the test of time and use has been applied, before we venture to become critics. But I wish to take this opportunity to put the question in its purely general application to this representative meeting of my professional brethren, with a view to seeing if it be possible to arrive at a general principle or principles that may be of assistance to the rank and file of us, who are not yet distinguished architects, but who are already practising in India, and who

are likely to do so in increasing numbers in the future. I feel strongly that we are in some need of such a lead—that its absence keeps the sum of our scattered activities from becoming a genuine “movement.” I feel that the time has come when we ought to agree on a definite architectural policy.

I admit that the point is a controversial one—but that makes it only the more interesting. There would appear to be two schools of thought on the matter. One school holds that we should do in India as the Romans did in every country whereon they planted their conquering foot. We British, they say, should take our architecture with us, along with the law, order, justice and Western culture, which it is our glory to give to India, and that architecture should embody an expression of these things. This school deprecates all revivalist experiments. Let the work of the past stand as the memorial of the past. Let our work of the present stand to future ages as the memorial of our rule under the British Raj.

The only other school which has so far found a voice points to the acknowledged fact that an uninterrupted living tradition in architecture exists to-day, linking the present direct with the past in India alone, perhaps, among all countries of the world. It contends that the true policy ought to be to shun all imported forms and ideas and imported architects alike, but to foster and feed the existing living tradition by the agency of the men—call them what you will, native architects, *stapathis*, *mistrys*, craftsmen—with whom that tradition resides. It emphasises the need for action calculated to maintain the tradition in view of the fact that the latter is actually dying out for want of sustenance.

There is much to be said for both points of view, divergent though they may appear to be. For my part I find myself in some agreement with each, and yet in about equal disagreement with each. Neither, I think, quite covers the ground. After close on twenty years of study of the problem on the spot (and it is not one which can be mastered except by actually living with it and watching it in relation to all the ordinary daily architectural needs, as it were, of the country), the position to which I find myself to have leanings is one exactly intermediate between the two. Stated briefly, it is this. Let the architect take to India all of his real principles, all of his technical skill both in design and in execution, all the essence of his training, *but nothing more*. There let him set himself to a new pupilage, and study India's indigenous forms and expressions in relation to the general conditions he there finds. Let him absorb these forms and expressions into his consciousness, until, without abandoning one essential of his earlier training, he can, as it were, not only speak, but also think architecturally in an indigenous manner. Then, and not till then, let him tackle the problems of design for specific conditions, and he will find he can arrive at a solution at once indigenous and architecturally sound, modern and vital.

The first school I mentioned (shall we call it the Roman school?) founds, I think, on somewhat of a misapprehension. It is arguable that we never did conquer India at all in the Roman sense. Surely ours was more a commercial than a military conquest, and perhaps more a cultural than either. And even if the original conquest had been a military one, surely now, in 1920, there is seen to be no room in the world for a military empire, such as the kind of architecture advocated would typify, even in the Orient. Our object is not—not now, at any rate (I doubt if it ever was)—merely to *hold* India, not even merely to govern it. Is it not rather to assist India to learn how to govern herself? Would not any monument, however great as a work of art, that asserted the idea of the conquering heel of a superior race, and that therefore branded the people as of a subject race—would not that go far to defeat our object? And how can you expect a mode of architectural expression evolved under different skies (itself the outcome of repeated revivals) and in totally different conditions to settle down comfortably in any country, especially one with a tradition of its own? Surely the foundation, the texture, the ultimate quality, the accent, of all architectural expression lies in the craftsmanship. Can we train the Indian crafts anew, and teach them to assimilate our accents? We should get only that horrid thing called “chee-chee”! Has any craft in the past ever really been so trained? Does every craft



not rather train itself? Look at the Græco-Bactrian sculpture. For a century after Alexander's invasion of Northern India the Greeks tried to train the Indian craftsmen to catch the Greek accent, and what do we get? At its best a watery imitation of Greek—hybrid, Eurasian.



GRÆCO-BACTRIAN BUDDHA FROM THE SWAT VALLEY, PESHAWAR

So we come to the second, the craftsman, or "swadeshi" school, and I ask you is it a working proposition that modern India should "find herself" architecturally without the assistance of architects? The indigenous craftsmen are a simple people, all unversed in the ways of modern life: they have the most rudimentary business ideas. Time could not be of the essence of any contract with them, nor could more than an approximation—if that—in matters of cost. The thing is unworkable in the business age in which we find ourselves. I fear that the experiment which this school advocated would be more likely finally to kill out the livingness of the indigenous tradition, tenuous as that has become through comparative neglect, than to give it a new lease of life, just as you would run the risk of killing a man in an advanced state of starvation were you prematurely to set before him a full meal. Therefore I maintain that the plan I suggest is the only one. We can't do without the architect, and at present, till India is in a position to produce indigenous architects, we can't do without the imported British architect. But every lover of India, and of architecture, will be with me in wishing to speed the day when that country shall produce her own architects, and shall have a strong, healthy,

indigenous profession of her own. It is for that indigenous profession of the future that it behoves us to prepare the way, and to set the tune. I would have every architectural effort tested by the question: "How will this fit in with the scheme of the future? Does it contribute anything to the carrying on of India's architectural tradition, or does it not?"

Now there is the question of how far it is possible for a modern British architect to find materials from the still living tradition in which he can express himself fully and freely, without detriment to the modernness of his work. I think he can if his mind is sufficiently open and unprejudiced, and if he knows how to look for his material. I do not think that one could study the work of Ahmedabad, Champanir and Bijapur without finding suggestions for the treatment of most parts of a modern Indian building for any purpose whatever. More. I do not think an architect could study those works at all exhaustively, or for any considerable period, without feeling himself in tune with their builders, and inspired to create as they were and as they did. And if the tradition is living, as I assert it is, as has been admitted, and as I think you will agree, is not that circumstance a guarantee of its possibilities on its own soil?

I suppose I shall have Kipling's "East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet" hurled at me. Gentlemen, with all respect to a great writer, that is pure nonsense. It used to be considered a mildly *risqué* witticism to ask: "What is it that a man can do, but a woman can't?" the answer being "Ride a bicycle." That is now nonsense, however true it may have been once. Believe me, East and West are meeting, and have got to meet, and to bring about the meeting is one of the chief justifications for our being in India. We may like it or not; we may close our eyes to all the various issues involved in that meeting, some of which may appear to us now as unthinkable, or, without closing our eyes to them, but still deeming them unthinkable, we may construct from them cogent arguments against the meeting. But we can't hold back the tide, and the tide of the world's

history has turned, and is now flowing towards all manner of once unthinkable unifications, agreements and meetings—that among them, and by no means the most difficult among them—certainly so far as the domain of architecture is concerned. For the principles of art are universal, and it is these that give us our common meeting-ground in architecture.

I feel that there exists in India an opportunity—or at any rate that some of the ingredients of an opportunity exist for the architect—such as is to be found nowhere else in the world. This unique thing, the survival of a living tradition of craftsmanship, and the other peculiar conditions to which I have alluded, are among these ingredients. The opportunity I mean is one for the architect to produce living modern architecture. However inspired your design, have you not time and again despaired of finding your craftsmen (under our Western system) in full sympathy? How often has not one seen a fine conception that “doesn’t just come off” for want of the true craftsmen’s note? And this where the ideas of the design are not foreign to the country of the workpeople. But in India, provided you yourself have absorbed the indigenous tradition, and have designed in the spirit of it, there are the craftsmen ready and waiting for you, able to grasp your intentions at a glance, and to render your details, not merely intelligently, but with something of the same inspiration that bore upon you in conceiving the work. A building so conceived, and so carried out, might achieve what should be the ideal for great architecture, an embodiment of the working of a great corporate mind, of which mind that of the architect is but the co-ordinating part, the tenor bell (if I may borrow a phrase from a distinguished fellow architect) sounding through the whole carillon. In such a building might be recaptured the spirit of the guilds of old.

Gentlemen, I do not think that the plan I am recommending is to be called a compromise. True, it takes a middle position between the two schools of thought—but an uncompromising one. A compromise is something you agree to less extreme than what your own convictions would demand, a patched-up agreement in which each party forgoes somewhat of his full aims. If adherents of either of the extreme positions in the present case were to accept my plan as a measure of expediency, though still thinking their own way the best, and regretting their inability to carry it, that would be a compromise. But if they, or if anyone else (as in my own case), accept it without such reservation, and on the conviction that it is inherently a better way than either extreme, then that is no compromise, but a definite fresh position. This is the day of just such uncompromising middle positions in everything. It is not the day for extremes. After all, does the maintenance of extreme positions not largely depend on inertia and, above all, on bad temper? The first school of thought to which I have alluded might be said to be akin to autocracy, to military imperialism; the second to—well, bolshevism! My way is rather on the lines of a sane democracy.

And now a brief summary. Modern architectural practice in India was a comparatively negligible quantity till at the beginning of the century it received a fillip from Government’s action in initiating the recruitment to the Public Works Department of architects from Home. It is still a slight affair compared to the vast opportunities which the country should, and could, afford. For a great number of years—I think for perhaps a generation—it will require careful nursing; during which time everything will depend on the lead which Government, with the Government architects, gives to the public of India with respect to the profession. The public has to be taught the value of the architect’s services before the way is clear and free for the growth and progress of a private profession in the country; but it will assuredly take its line from Government in this, as it has done in the case of every other profession which has become established in India. I predict a great future for architecture and architects out there, and great benefits therefrom to the industries and to the public generally; but *how soon* that will begin to be I am unable to say. That depends on many matters of which the strings are partly held by Government, partly by the architects themselves.

A living tradition of craftsmanship and design still exists in India in a somewhat feeble state of vitality; and our aim should be to keep that alive, to foster it and give it a new lease of life. In it are

the germs of India's future architecture, an indigenous architecture by indigenous architects. The *métier* of the British architect now should be to act foster-mother to the infant growth. To this end the clearest thinking is necessary at the present time: and this Institute and its members, by their sympathetic interest, can give powerful aid in building up a body of professional opinion on right and helpful lines.

## DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, President, in the Chair.

THE PRESIDENT said they had listened to an extremely interesting paper. Mr. Begg had asked whether they would give him some definite ruling as to the line that an architect in India should take—should he insist on the rôle of the conqueror and inflict his style on other people, or should he take there simply his training, his technical knowledge, his science, and adapt these to the style of the country he was working in? Mr. Begg had really answered the question himself. He had shown his illustrations in chronological order, and this had enabled them to see not only the work of the architects, but to see the evolution of John Begg—and a very excellent and satisfactory evolution it had been. They saw him starting with his purely European ideas, which were excellent in themselves, but which did not seem to fit the surroundings very well; and then they saw him developing and feeling his way, until he came into a clean study of black and white. This, after all, was all one wanted there, because in that country the sun emphasised detail to such an extent that the less there was of it, and the simpler it was in relief, the more effectively it told, and they got the broad simple compositions which were applauded when thrown upon the screen. He could not remember the names of those which had given him the greatest pleasure, but one was a hospital building, another a great mass of brick and a long plain range of plaster above it, which was perfectly excellent. Mr. Begg could not have hit upon a better solution of the difficulty of treating Indian architecture for the quasi-Indo-European requirements. Before calling upon Mr. James Ransome to move a vote of thanks he would first ask Mr. Cram, their distinguished Corresponding Member from America, to say a few words.

Mr. RALPH ADAMS CRAM, D.Litt. [*Hon. Corr. M.*] said he found himself so absolutely in accord with Mr. Begg's final conclusions in the matter of the attitude of the architect in India towards Indian architectural problems that there seemed hardly anything he could add. It was indeed a happy idea of Mr. Begg's to show the buildings in chronological order—they seemed to see reminiscences of styles gradually growing up through those styles, and they found that, in the end, he had achieved style itself. And was not that the great object of architecture—the getting away from styles as such and the achievement of actual style? Style was so much a greater thing than the styles which we knew historically. It was true we had to go back to those constantly in order that we might obtain

the *point d'appui*, but we went back to the architectural styles finding what the real qualities were and eliminating, little by little, the more or less accidental qualities of the styles themselves, and so getting down to the fundamentals of style. Therefore it seemed that in the work which Mr. Begg showed towards the end we had real style, and that was what architects were striving for, though only too often, he thought, they contented themselves with achieving a more or less accurate reproduction of some past historic style. That, of course, was a thing which was a greater danger in America than here, because in America there was so little in the line of architectural continuity. American architects were bound to build up something new for themselves and, naturally, they went back to one style or another as their desire might lead them, and in as far as they succeeded in reproducing that style accurately and creditably they felt they had succeeded. He was putting it in the present tense, but it should be in the past tense, because in the last fifteen or twenty years there had been an increasing realisation of the fact that they must get away from this copying of English Georgian, or English Gothic, or French Renaissance, or Italian Renaissance, or whatever it might be, and achieve for themselves some consciousness of what really constituted the fundamental style that had expressed itself in the different architectural styles with which they were familiar. And he would go a step farther. He was not sure but that that was the problem which confronted us in this day and generation when we found before us the necessity of the rebuilding of civilisation on the ruins of the civilisation that, for good or for ill, had passed. We were bound to go back and to learn from the cultural and the civic styles of society in the past all we could that would be of assistance to us in the rebuilding of a new culture, a new civilisation. But if we contented ourselves with those narrow and limited archæological forms, we should produce nothing except a chimera, a thing in which there was no real vitality. Through a study of those elements in past history which had produced a great civilisation, we might perfectly well achieve the style of real civilisation; and, having achieved that, we could go forward content with the future that would open out before us. He was only arguing against what was showing itself in America, and perhaps here too—the inclination to return to the archæological exactness of the past for the foundations

on which they were to build. And he was speaking also for that recognition of the real quality of fundamental style which had existed in civilisation and in culture, as it had existed in all the arts of the past.\*

Mr. JAMES RANSOME [F.], in moving a vote of thanks for the Paper, said: To me as Mr. Begg's predecessor in the office he holds, this subject is naturally of intense interest, and it is with very great satisfaction that I have witnessed upon the screen evidence of the splendid progress made in the architecture of India since I relinquished my appointment some thirteen years ago. From the examples of the work he has shown us it is clear that he is to be congratulated not only upon his own designs, but, what is perhaps of greater importance, his influence upon the designs of others. It is with the greatest concern that I hear rumours that his appointment is to be abolished, and my fears in this respect are not lessened when he tells us that there is a lack of co-ordination and united effort amongst the Government architects practising in India. I have a lively recollection of my sense of isolation from my fellow architects, and of my inability to discuss with those who knew and understood our aims and *raison d'être*, and, until during the latter part of my service I had the good fortune to work under the direction of Sir Lionel Jacob, who I am glad to see is with us to-night, it is no exaggeration to say that I was associated with no one in authority equipped with sufficient intelligent interest in architecture to further the cause which I had at heart. I remember my consternation when it was pointed out to me that the cone-shaped roof of my design for the Simla Bandstand could not be constructed as it afforded no space for the "16 steel roof principals essential to its support," and I am unlikely to forget a certain official note which pathetically asked Why cannot the Consulting Architect leave construction alone? I am sometimes doubtful whether we ourselves may not be to blame for the public's misconception of our helpfulness. Are we not sometimes inclined to accentuate the ethics of our Art rather than its practical use, and is it not conceivable that our critics would be more tolerant of us as efficient constructors of form rather than as fashionable dressmakers? It is disappointing to hear that ignorance and apathy in Indian architecture which were natural enough twenty years ago have not made way for a wider knowledge of and sympathy with the subject, but if this is the case it would seem that the time has not yet arrived for the abolition of the only official qualified to assist and co-ordinate the efforts of the various provincial Government architects scattered over the country. Mr. Begg asks what should be the guiding principle of architectural expression in India, and it seems to me that the answer is—Utility. Some months after my arrival in India, and after I had acquainted myself with a vast number of its buildings of all ages and in all parts, I was asked the same question, and on my

expressing the opinion that the future development of our Indian architecture must be along Anglo-Indian lines I was instructed not to put up any monziet buildings in that country. Calcutta should be Classic, Bombay Gothic, Madras Saracenic, Rangoon Renaissance, and so on. I have never regretted these instructions, as they forced upon me a task I should not otherwise have undertaken—that of attempting to adapt each of the known styles of architecture to our requirements in India, an attempt which confirmed me in my suspicion that one and all were unsuited to the purpose, for conditions in India are such that any attempt at conformity with the laws of style is pre-doomed to failure. A thoughtful study of modern Indian buildings discloses the fact that as these have departed from tradition so have they approached to excellence. Witness the designs of the Government buildings at new Delhi, in which the architects have availed themselves to the full of that freedom from tradition which Indian conditions demand. There is little evidence to show that the Mohammedan invaders were concerned that their architecture should stand to future ages as an example of their rule in India, or that they fostered and fed its living traditions, but it is certain that by their insistence upon their own methods of construction and by their intelligent employment of such practices as they found in the country they arrived at results which neither they nor the people they had conquered could have achieved apart. Let us follow their example, and while giving to India of our best, avail ourselves of any useful suggestion she has to offer us, then perhaps some day we may achieve something which may bear comparison with the Taj Mahal.

Sir LIONEL JACOB, K.C.S.I., in seconding the vote, said that he was an engineer, not an architect. Between architects and engineers, even in this country, he understood, there had sometimes been a little friction: but that was nothing to the antagonism which obtained at one time in India. For a century the public works of India—engineering and architectural—had been at first entrusted to the military engineers, the old Bengal, Bombay and Madras engineers of the Honourable East India Company's service. They were military engineers who went out to the country as mere boys, 16 and 17 years of age. One could realise how little they knew of either engineering or architecture, and if they did not do worse it was because there were giants in those days, or else because the system of selection was very good. The system may have been good because the men were nominated from the right class, and, though they started as boys, once they found themselves in positions of high responsibility they soon found their feet. At any rate, some of them were giants. They did not do their architecture well; but it was surprising that they did not do worse. They were followed, in the course of time, by civil engineers. It was felt that the country wanted men with higher

\* Mr. Cram's further remarks at this meeting are reported in the JOURNAL for 24th April, p. 295.

scientific and technical training, so the civil engineers were introduced. They were about 23 years of age, and had had a longer course of education. But in the matter of architecture they were perhaps worse. They had learned a little of architecture, and thought they knew everything about it. Perhaps the definition that "Engineering is the science of building, and architecture the art of building," sometimes confused them, for they seemed to think that when architects were first imported into India they were mere artists, whose business it was to put a few swags on to their buildings, a few embellishments, perhaps a few dummy urns, which would be of no utility but would make the building more expensive. They did not think that the architect from his long training—which is as long as the training of the engineer—had learned something of economical planning, and, although he could give his building much more charm, could also design it so that it would be more economical in construction. That was what architects were confronted with in India. And in addition, as Mr. Begg had said, they were confronted with the curious official element. Every official in India, for some curious reason, thought he knew as much about architecture as an architect did. He would express his opinions with a cocksureness which made one writhe. To give an instance, a Secretary in the Public Works Department took an architect's design for an important building to a very high dignitary for his approval. The drawings he took were working drawings, and the high dignitary, in no mild terms, condemned the design altogether and told the Secretary to take it away and get another design made. The Secretary took the drawings back to the architect and asked him to prepare a pretty perspective picture, with blue skies, birds, a few trees, a lawn and deep shadows. This was done and the picture was submitted to the potentate. "Ah!" he said, "that's better, I know something about architecture, and I see you have carried out my suggestions; the design is very good and has my approval." That would give an idea of what architects had to contend with from the ignorance of officials. Another of their trials was the animosity of engineers. All Mr. Begg had said about those difficulties he most heartily endorsed.

With regard to the future, Mr. Begg seemed to hint that we were teaching the Hindus that the time might come when we should clear out of the country altogether, and that therefore architects should be designing in India for the future. He did not agree with that view. He hoped India would never be abandoned by the British. If it ever came about it would inflict sufferings untold upon the millions in India. The population was not a homogeneous race: they were Hindus, Mohammedans, Parsees, Sikhs, and a host of others, and if they were without the support and control of the British Empire they would contend against each other, and another Power would have to step in. He agreed with Mr. Begg that the

architect must carry his principles with him, and those principles were to give expression to the structural necessities of buildings, to give them charm, and to build for the needs of the day. That was all he could be concerned with. He could not look beyond that veil of impenetrable darkness, the future. The pictures which had been displayed that evening showed that Mr. Ransome, who was the first consulting architect in India, and Mr. Begg, who was the second, had been struggling towards the light through great difficulties. The atmosphere which the architect found in India was entirely different from what he had been accustomed to in his own country, and the climate was different. One of the essentials of a good building was that when it was built it should look at home in its surroundings. And one of the things they must certainly study in India was the climate, so that people might live in comfort in those buildings and surroundings. They would see by the pictures shown them how the architect had been struggling towards those ends; he had been trying to design something which was British and which yet had a savour of the architecture of the country, and he had been trying to design something which, by its verandahs and means of keeping off the direct rays of the sun from the inner walls, would make the buildings cool within. He (the speaker) was Secretary to the Government of India when both Mr. Ransome and Mr. Begg were Consulting Architects there, and he did his best to give them both his most hearty support—(Hear, hear)—against officials who knew nothing about architecture, and against the engineers who were often hostile to them. He felt that the architects had done splendid work in India, and he felt, too, that the work of the two pioneers in architecture in the country, Mr. Ransome and Mr. Begg, would live, and in the future would be much more appreciated than it had been in the past.

Mr. H. HEATHCOTE STATHAM [F.] said that it was satisfactory to learn from Mr. Begg's paper that they seemed at last to have got rid of the influence of what used to be known as the P.W.D. He remembered in those days, long ago, when he had the misfortune to be an editor, he heard a great deal about some of those buildings which were being put up in India—big railway stations, etc.—and he told the clever young man who collaborated with him on those subjects that they ought to illustrate some of these, and especially one. He said, "That is easy; the architect has got a draughtsman in London working here, who is a friend of mine. I will write to him." The reply which came was to the effect that no doubt the architect would be happy to let them illustrate his buildings, but they were such awful stuff that he did not think they would care to have the photos. Mr. Begg had touched upon a very interesting subject indeed, namely, the position which we ought, as a foreign race, to take in India. He said we are not the Romans. We are, and we are not. It was a wonderful history, which commenced with a great deal of very

doubtful behaviour and commercial trickery, and then expanded into a good government. We were in the position of conquerors fifty or sixty years ago, and we acted as such. The idea that we were working to enable India to govern herself was rather recent, and it was one which was very important, and which perhaps we ought to support. But he agreed with Sir Lionel Jacob that it would be a very long time before England could safely retire from India, and he thought the history of England in India would remain one of the greatest pages in all history, one which was the greatest honour to this country on account of the way in which our rule had expanded until it had been a wholesale benefit to the country, and caused the wholesale production of great works for its good. It was an achievement of which England might justly be proud. He thought we should, to some extent, act the part of the Romans. The Romans, wherever they went, built their theatres and their triumphal arches, just as they would have done in Rome or any other city in Italy. We should not go as far as that, but he thought that buildings erected for our Government purposes in India should, to some extent, bear the stamp of having been built by the English nation for the English Government. At present we had settled down rather upon Classic lines. The Classic lines would suit the climate of India in many respects much better than they suited our climate; and he should say that our official buildings in India should bear some stamp of Classicism, but modified, in the first place, by the conditions of the atmosphere, and in the second place, by the details of the country in which they were building. They were there in the midst of a new flora, new forms of vegetation, many of which might be suggestive for decorations. They could get in their buildings something founded upon Classic architecture, but with a great deal of new detail, and modified in effect by the necessity of producing shadow on the walls as a protection against the heat of the sun. He seemed to see in that the prospect of a new Classical style, and he confessed he thought the buildings they had seen illustrated were a little wanting in that reminiscence: they were rather too much Anglo-Indian. He would have them more "Anglo," less "Indian." He thought there might be before them, in that respect, a field for something very beautiful and novel in architectural style.

The PRESIDENT, in putting the motion, said he had already observed that the paper might have been called "The Development of John Begg," for he had developed his own style in his own way, in the country

in which he was placed, and one could not pay him a higher compliment than that. The Indian Government had for many years consulted the Institute with regard to the selection of its architects. It owed Mr. John Begg to the intervention of the Institute, and he thought the Indian Government, and the India Office especially, ought to be extremely obliged to the Institute for its recommendation. The Institute had also sent out other good men since, who, he hoped, when Mr. Begg's time for retirement arrived, would take up his work and carry on his tradition there. With regard to the danger, which Mr. Statham hinted at, of a man allowing his own personal work to be absorbed by the influence of the country in which he worked, he did not think they need fear that. Even if a man consciously went from England imbued with the traditions of English work and of our own particular forms of Renaissance, and tried to transplant them into India, his own work would show all through it, and even if he were trying to carry out Indian work. Tradition was far too strong for anything of that sort to occur. As the old proverb said, "You can expel Nature with a fork, but it will return."

Mr. JOHN BEGG, in responding, said that it was a great privilege and pleasure to have appeared before the Institute in this way, and it was a special pleasure to know that his audience had included his predecessor in the work in India, Mr. Ransome, and his old chief in India, Sir Lionel Jacob. Mr. Ransome was a difficult man to follow, because he set a high standard. Sir Lionel Jacob, he thought, had done more for the architect in India than anybody had done since the country came under British rule.

\* \* \* Having been shown a proof of the preceding report, Mr. Begg writes to say that his remarks were not intended to convey the interpretation put upon them by Sir Lionel Jacob and Mr. Statham as to India being abandoned by the British. He did not think it necessary to challenge the inference of those gentlemen at the time, especially as he did not wish to bring any "political" flavour into the discussion. But on reading the report of the discussion in proof, he now thinks it well to explain that he intended to refer merely to the probability of the architectural profession practising in India being an indigenously trained profession, and to the possible cessation, at some time in the future, of the importation of British-trained architects into India. This is a very different matter from that of "England retiring from India."



## CORRESPONDENCE.

## Classic Greek Design.

New York, 5th May, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—Your correspondent Mr. A. Trystan Edwards tells us [p. 261] that he is a mathematician and implies that the mathematics connected with dynamic symmetry is trivial. Inasmuch as this has been my contention, I am satisfied to let the matter stand thus. But he is disturbed about the terms "static" and "dynamic." Apparently he is confused on this point. The terms apply to symmetry and not to mathematics. Not being a mathematician I consulted an eminent authority on the science before adopting the words to describe the active and passive qualities I found to be distinguishing characteristics of two symmetry types. I was told that the use of the words was legitimate. I was also told by this authority that mathematics itself was divided into the static and the dynamic, and, also, he was careful to point out, the terms might be applied to two types of mathematicians. The static represented the book-keeping type, the members of this class being generally saturated with formulæ and spending their time working out special cases of application. These men, as a rule, were barren. Their contribution to the science was negative. The dynamic represented the philosopher type, and its members devoted themselves to general conceptions and used their energies to simplify, broaden and add new ideas to the science. Mathematics owed its pre-eminence to these men.

The general attitude of your correspondent is not ingratiating. I can excuse his slur about propaganda, as I realise this was induced by the advertising man's wording of an announcement of the publication of my book on Greek pottery. Of course, I must assume responsibility for this, despite the fact that I knew nothing about it until I saw it in print. For this lack of taste, even decency, I humbly apologise and believe I can promise that it won't happen again. The pun, however, is an offence of another type. This correspondent's attitude is such that I am sure no amount of knowledge of symmetry could help him, so I shall address myself to those of more open mind.

I should like to point out that symmetry is an essential element in design, whether it is put there consciously or unconsciously. If symmetry is not present in an art effort, then design does not exist in it. I believe this is incontrovertible. Symmetry is not unlike perspective. The latter enables the artist to secure proper proportional relationship between the composing elements of a realistic representation in three dimensions. It depends upon the establishment of a right angle and a mean proportional. Symmetry enables the artist to secure proper proportional relationship between the composing elements of a design in two dimensions. It depends upon the establishment of a right angle and two mean pro-

portionals. Perspective is limited in its use to pictures and three-dimensional renderings. Symmetry has a much more general application: it may be used in pictures, sculpture, architecture or the crafts.

It is no more necessary to use cubes or other powers of numbers or general mathematical formulæ in symmetry than to use algebra or the calculus in perspective. Also, it should be perfectly plain that symmetry is no more a recipe for beauty than is perspective.

I thought I carefully explained, in my lecture before the Institute, that the dynamic symmetry type was the symmetry of the plant and shell and that its base was the relationship existing between a side of a square and a diagonal of two squares. It seems to me that, as a general statement, this is sufficiently simple. When we consider that this simple base furnishes a remarkable series of shapes which possess peculiar powers of self sub-division and modulation, that these shapes explain the symmetry of classic design, as it has never been explained before, and that they have a natural base, it seems to me that the matter is worthy of inspection.

I have always felt that classic Greek design, especially architecture, possessed a peculiar quality suggestive of life, and I believe that eminent authorities have felt the same thing and commented upon it. I believe this quality is due to the fact that the symmetry of this design is dynamic—that is, it is a symmetry analogous to, if not quite like, the symmetry of the plant and shell. The symmetry of Gothic art is like the symmetry of the crystal, it is static.

I am sure we could have an interesting and profitable discussion if critics would confine themselves to the subject of symmetry and not express their opinions about other phases of art.

JAY HAMBIDGE.

#### Increasing the Accommodation of Existing Small Houses.

10th May, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

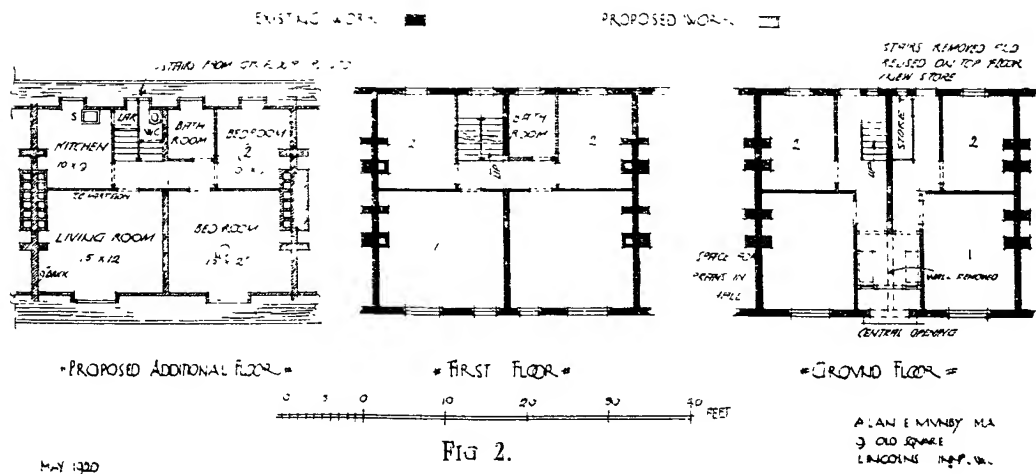
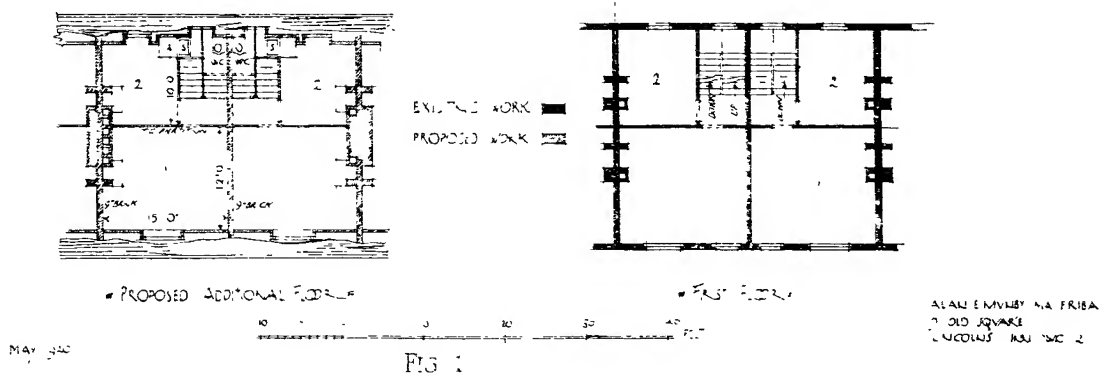
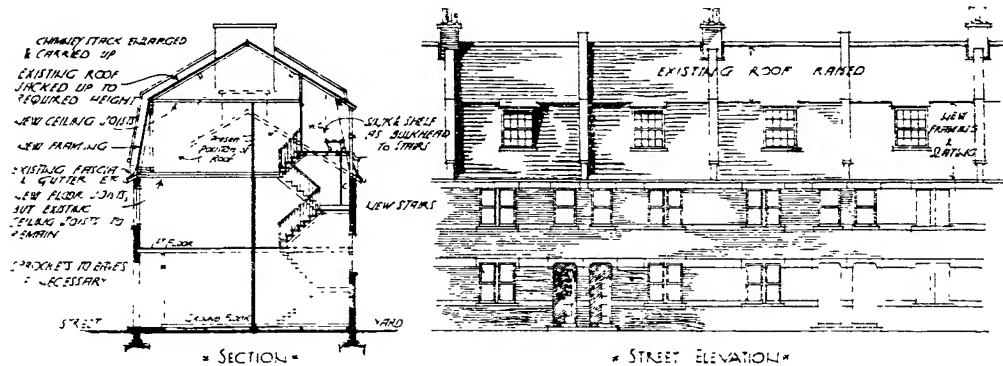
SIR,—After three years of effort on the part of the Government and a vast amount of debating and work on drawing boards, we seem no nearer the provision of an adequate supply of small houses. Further, transit difficulties do not appear to have been seriously dealt with at all, the congestion of normal traffic having yet to be overcome. Hence it seems obvious that for some years greater use must be made of existing areas already built upon. I am no advocate of high buildings for our cities in which light and air are such vital essentials, but there is much two-storey small tenement property particularly in the east and south of London situated on roads of reasonable width which might have an additional floor, and I venture to enclose a drawing suggesting how this might be economically added.

Fig. 1.—The proposal shows this addition as a mansard which should be capable of erection in many cases without disturbing the existing tenants. Where such



property has an ordinary pitched roof with its ridge parallel to the street, if a row of slates were stripped a few courses above the eaves gutter, the rafters sawn through and the purlins released at the party walls, the roof might be temporarily tied and jacked up, when it would form a protection for the inmates and workmen. Floor joists could then be inserted between the ceiling joists, the party walls and chimneys raised and the mansard sides inserted. Slab plaster could be used to accelerate work and avoid mess. The only

brickwork would be that to the party walls, while the use of the old roof would reduce the carpenters' work. The cost of land, drainage, roadmaking and fencing involved in new property would be avoided. In the case of a house with a 16-ft. frontage and 28-ft. front to back as shown, two rooms would be obtainable, one 15 ft. by 12 ft. 6 in., the other 10 ft. by 9 ft., off which latter would be a raised sink with its own window in a cupboard over the stair, while the stair head would provide room for a w.c.



This is no attempt to plan an ideal home, but would provide decent accommodation where it is most wanted, and would do much to relieve congestion. At the present time it seems likely that this addition to a single house would cost about £350, but if the scheme were applied to a street, the repetition work would be so considerable that appreciable reduction might be expected. The impregnation of the roof timber for a certain distance from the party walls to resist fire, as an alternative to raising these walls 2 feet above the roof in the usual way, might be looked into with a view to economy and improved appearance.

Fig. 2 shows a rather more ambitious scheme applied to similar houses in pairs with staircases together. The suggestion here is the removal of one stair and the cutting of the party wall adjoining on each floor to admit of the use of the remaining stair by both houses. This would give a good "hall" 6 ft. to 8 ft. wide with room space on either side of a central recessed door. The stair space would give a bathroom or small bedroom on the upper floors, and, assuming the usual back projections, this space on the ground floor would at least be available for storage. The added mansard storey could become a single suite of four rooms with bathroom and closet. The one stair would still be ample to serve the two houses, while cleaning service common to all the tenants—always a difficulty—would be reduced.

The discarded stairs could be utilised instead of providing new ones for the added storey. Even if raising the buildings were not considered feasible, this reduction of stairways by the combination of houses let as tenements, to give room for more useful accommodation, would be worth debating.

I have no doubt that many of your readers could make much more illuminating suggestions, but with ever-increasing prices and decreasing output it would seem that our only salvation—for the time anyhow—lies in the direction of studying to improve our existing small house property. I am drawing the attention of the Ministry of Health to the matter and I shall welcome any constructive criticism.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
ALAN E. MUNBY [F.].

#### Town Planning: The Grid-iron Lay-out.

46, Great Russell Street, W.C., 15th May, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR.—Your correspondent, Mr. Paul Ogden, takes serious exception to certain criticisms that I made in regard to the lay-out of the Wilbraham Road Estate, Manchester, for which he appears to have been the responsible architect.

He is hardly fair in quoting certain passages from my article and removing them from its context. May I repeat what I said as regards the size and disposition of the scheme? It was pointed out that the sites chosen at Manchester were too big and too few, but that this was no fault of the architects.

The whole exhibition of lay-outs clearly showed

that there is a limit to the number of working-class houses that can be erected in close association without producing monotony, and that mechanical pattern-making can never have the interest and attraction of features developed from sociological conditions and history.

My somewhat picturesque statement that the people were to be stabled in stalls is certainly a true simile when I see four, perhaps more (I have not the plan in front of me when I write, and only speak from memory), exactly similar cul-de-sacs placed side by side.

Mr. Ogden was evidently fully conscious of modern methods and modern thought when he laid out his grid-iron plan. He explains, evidently with pride, that he is only following in the footsteps of the ancients, Hippodamus and the rest. It is well that he bases his principles on tradition and history, but he should go a step farther and enquire into the causes of their ancient use. He might read with advantage Webley's *Greek Studies*. There he would see that his grid-iron plan was a type, the especial advantage of which was the allocation of sites.

Grid-iron plans have been made, and still are made, solely for the purpose of selling land. Mr. Ogden appears to see no *via media* between the grid-iron plans of the ancients and, for the matter of that, the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., and the distortion of straight roads to produce what he somewhat aptly describes as the English puzzle-garden lay-out. I must thank him for this description of a modern method, which I am with him in deploring.

If I may venture to explain myself more clearly, it is not so much the square and symmetric system that I object to as the grid-iron system with its endless repeats. Town plans should express growth and radiation. They should be dynamic rather than static, and nowhere should whole areas be composed of similar shaped spaces, stamped out and standardised like postage stamps on a perforated sheet.—Yours, etc.

S. D. ADSHEAD [F.].

#### The Masonry of the Heraion at Olympia.

New University Club, St. James's,  
14th May, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—Will you allow me to call attention to an inadvertent misrepresentation in the review which you have kindly published of my small volume on Hellenic architecture? The reviewer, Mr. Theodore Fyfe, points out that the fine masonry in many parts of the Cretan palaces is "hardly consistent with the argument that the cella walls of the existing *Heraion* at Olympia belong to a later date than the foundations."

This appears to attribute to me the opinion that the cella of the *Heraion* is not part of the original work—the contrary of what I meant to convey. My argument is that the masonry of the *Heraion* could hardly have been erected by the Dorian invaders *themselves*.

and that they therefore availed themselves of the art and skill of the native Mycenaean builders (p. 76), which, of course, assumes its early date.

In other respects I have reason to be gratified by the generally favourable opinion of an authority who has been so closely connected with Sir A. Evans's epoch-making discoveries in Crete.—Yours faithfully,

EDWARD BELL.

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Ex-Officers Training as Architects.

19th May 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—I have at the Northern Polytechnic Institute about 30 ex-officers who are undergoing an architectural training. In order to give these men office experience and make them eventually valuable additions to an office staff, I wish to introduce them to architects who will allow them to work in their offices on Saturdays or during the Long Vacation, when they could take the place of junior assistants on holiday.

Some of the leading firms of contractors are already taking the greatest interest in similar arrangements for men training as builders and surveyors, and any assistance you can give me in the matter will be greatly appreciated.—Yours very truly,

T. P. BENNETT [A.],

Head of the School of Architecture,  
Building and Surveying.

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REVIEWS.

GUIDE TO BUILDING

"Specification. No. 22." (1920). Edited by Frederick Chatterton, F.R.I.B.A., pp. xxxii. 444. Illustrated. Published by Technical Journals, Ltd.

The new volume (No. 22) of *Specification* makes its appearance with the name of Mr. Frederick Chatterton on the title-page. On the whole, the reader will agree that this welcome annual justifies the claim in the preface to be "the most comprehensive and most up-to-date guide to every phase of the building art and craft." The publishers may be assured of a large sale during the present period of reconstruction, for most architects are at any rate momentarily busy, and those who have been away from this country for many years on service will be ready purchasers. For, apart from the heavy handicaps caused by a practice closed down, they suffer in varying degree from loss of memory of all technical terms and formulæ, and also from having been unable to follow the extraordinary change in building materials and methods caused by the war. So, though this volume may be of use even to the O.B.E. in Whitehall, it is to the demobilised architect that it is to be specially recommended, in order that he may thereby be enabled to make his pre-war practice rise Phoenix-like from its ashes. Building is no longer the pleasant affair of Portland stone and sand-faced tiles that it used to be. It is a struggle to

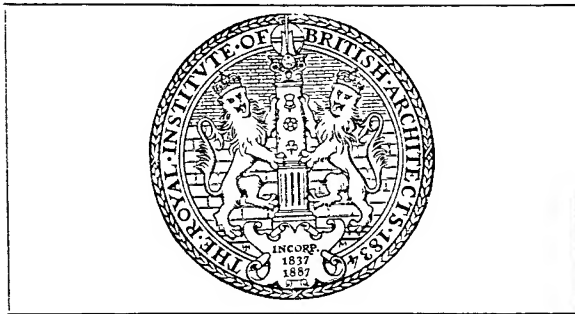
find anything cheaper than fantastically-named sheets of patent material, made from heaven-knows-what, and classified in general as "substitutes"—substitutes for brick, substitutes for tiles, for slates, for plaster, for lead, for everything that is sound and abiding—and their name is legion. I have compared this volume with a predecessor dating from the spacious days of King Edward VII. It is perhaps significant that most of the section on "Mason" has disappeared, and that a section on "substitutes" appears in the post-war volume. What is contained in this special contribution, which one is apt at first to regard as a guide to the modern science of jerry-building? Much useful information, presented in clear and readable form, as to the numerous patent preparations that decorate the advertisement pages of the technical press. Here we can learn something of the nature of Poilite, Beaver-board, Ruberoid, Rok, and all the rest of them. But why not some information as to the new forms of jointless flooring, one of the most difficult problems in modern factory construction? For the special article on these various substitutes one is grateful, and yet it remains to have absolute confidence in some of the paragraphs that seem to be inspired by the manufacturers.

The modern architect is unfortunately often confronted with the necessity of forming an opinion on some new material, too recently invented to have stood the test of time, and yet he has access to no scientific test to help him in his decision. What we need is an unbiassed opinion, after severe tests under practical conditions. Mr. Chatterton has begun well in this direction, and perhaps in his next number he can carry his chapter on "substitutes" a stage farther towards infallibility. And even if stone is to be a discarded material in the slap-dash building of the future, the very latest reports on stone-preserved would be a welcome addition to the book, as also some of the newer inventions in metal-scaffolding.

The first part of the work consists of several special articles. That on the design of "Cinemas" is very complete, and will be helpful to many architects: as also the second article, on "Bungalows." The sections on "Housing" contain nothing novel, but summarise much that is contained in less accessible publications. The chapter on the use of gas in housing schemes is really valuable so far as it goes, but that is not quite far enough to settle various questions of cost of running that are troubling Housing Committees who hesitate to introduce gas cooking and heating. The article on "Factory Construction" says too little of lighting problems and of the methods of fixing shafts, belting, and other mechanical details, to be as useful as it might be.

Mr. Chatterton is to be congratulated on the results of his first half-year's work, and we shall look forward with interest to new features under his inspiration in "No. 23."

MARTIN S. BRIGGS [F.].



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 29th May 1920

## CHRONICLE.

### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

KAY, ALBERT, *Student*. Killed in action at Hollebeke, 1st August 1917.

FAUSSET, STUART S., *Student*. Killed in action.

STEPHENS, WILLIAM LESLIE, Lieut. R.E., *Student*. Killed in action 19th June 1917.

### War Honours.

BRADSHAW, H. CHALTON, Capt. R.E., *Associate*: served in France and Italy 1915-19: awarded the Italian Croce di Guerra, 1918.

STEDMAN, W. B., 2nd Lieut. R.E., *Associate*: served in France 1916-18: awarded the D.C.M. and M.S.M.

### Proposed Increase of Subscriptions.

The Special General Meeting summoned by the Council under By-law 65 to consider their proposal to raise the entrance fees, subscriptions and contributions of Members and Licentiates was duly held on the 10th May. Mr. Walter Cave, *Vice-President*, presiding. The Resolution to be put to the meeting on behalf of the Council was in the following terms:—

"That, in order to provide funds to meet the increase in expenditure due to the general advance in prices, an addition of one guinea be made to all Entrance Fees and Subscriptions of Members and Contributions of Licentiates; and that the necessary steps be taken to obtain the sanction of the Privy Council to such revision of By-law 17 as is required to give effect to this resolution."

The CHAIRMAN, in stating the object of the meeting, said that the serious deficit in the Council's estimate for the current year had doubtless prepared members for something in the nature of the proposal: the meeting was summoned to consider. They were fortunate in having with them to second the resolution Mr. Searles-Wood, Chairman of the Finance and House Committee. He had held that office for some years, was thoroughly cognisant of the Institute's financial position, and would answer any questions that members might wish to put regarding it.

The CHAIRMAN then formally moved the Resolution in the terms set out above.

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD, in seconding the resolution, said he thought it did not need very much argument to bring the necessity for increased subscriptions before members. If they would turn to the estimates on page 290 of the Annual Report they would see that the cost of running the Institute for the current year would be about £15,000. The subscribing membership was roughly 4,400, and a very simple calculation would show that the cost per head was about £3 10s. (A voice: "Cheap.") That showed that this was essentially a case where a flat rate was the right thing for this increase. There were 863 Fellows, who paid £3.625. Their increase, at a guinea a head, would be £906, making a total of £4,531. There were 1,773 Associates, who paid £3.723. Their increase at a guinea would be £1,362, making £5,885. There were 1,715 Licentiates, who paid £1.801, and their extra guinea would produce £1,801, making a total of £3,602. The need for the increase was due, of course, to the depreciation of money values. As a consequence, everything was "up" in price, and he thought it was time that their subscriptions went up also.

A MEMBER: What additional income would that give us?

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD: In round figures, £4,500.

Mr. GEORGE HUBBARD, F.S.A. [F.]: Can we have it in totals? I understand from Mr. Searles-Wood that it costs £15,000 a year to run the Institute. What will the income be if this resolution is passed?

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD: In the budget we give £9,400 for the subscriptions, and the increase of £4,500 makes it £13,900. The balance between that and £15,000 is made up by examination fees, sales of publications, income from advertisements, etc.

Mr. HUBBARD: So if the resolution is passed we shall just make both ends meet?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, we shall strike the balance on the right side.

A MEMBER: Why is there a flat rate for all classes, though they pay different subscriptions?

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD: Because the cost per head is £3 10s. Financially, the Licentiates are a loss to the Institute: so, in a lesser degree, are the Associates.

Sir BANISTER FLETCHER: Has the Institute been run at a loss during the last few years?

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD: Yes; we have had to cut our coat according to our cloth. You have only to look round to see that we have not done our duty to the premises, nor to our staff, simply because we have not had the means. (Hear, hear.) We have managed each year to show a small balance, but it has only been possible by cheese-paring in every direction. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. E. GUY DAWBER, F.S.A.: If we carry this to-night, it will see us safely on the right side? We shall not then have to pinch and scrape in every way as we have had to do of late years?

The CHAIRMAN: I hope that is so.

Mr. HUBBARD : Is it considered possible that we might lose some members through the increased subscription ? (" No " : " Shame.")

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS, F.S.A. [F.] said he had been prevented by illness from attending the discussion on the Annual Report last week. He was struck by the following very human remark in the Annual Report : " It is obvious that, in view of the general rise in prices, an income on the pre-war level cannot possibly be adequate." He looked to see what was the pre-war income of the staff, which was admitted to be inadequate. He looked also to see what they were paid for the year just ended, and he found but a very slight increase. The reason, of course, was because the Institute had not got the money. But he would go further. He was particularly interested in the Treasury scheme of War Bonus, which was a very good scheme and had been adopted by all the County Councils, Borough Councils and Municipal Authorities and the whole Civil Service of the United Kingdom. He knew it was paid in Sevenoaks, where he lived. It was a good system, because it gave the greatest increase proportionately to the man who had a low salary. The higher his salary, the less in proportion was his War Bonus. It was an attempt to compensate him for the extra cost of living. He (Mr. Perks) had got out a list of what they paid the four senior officers of the Institute before the war ; and then, disregarding increases of salary, how much they should be paid if they adopted the Treasury War Bonus system. He found that the four senior officials were underpaid, on that scale, to the extent of £770 : and that would not have been an increase of salary, but merely what the Government, after exhaustive enquiry, thought would help to compensate the officials for the extra cost of living. The Government scheme was based on a standard cost-of-living figure known as the " 130 per cent." The Institute had not adopted that scheme because it hadn't the money. He was sure that members of the Institute would not willingly have their staff worse treated than if they were in the County Council or Government offices, or in small local offices such as Sevenoaks. They all wanted to do the right thing. Everything had risen. Assistants, wisely, had looked after themselves : it was well known that their salaries had advanced considerably. The principals also had raised their scale of charges. Principals and assistants having been looked after, it was their duty to look after the Institute staff. Everybody must get an increase, in order to be able to live. The Council had come forward with a very proper scheme. They had heard no word of grumbling from the staff ; everything had gone on amicably. But still, there was the fact that the Institute had not done what other public bodies had done, and it ought to do it. Mr. Searles-Wood was to be greatly congratulated on the way he had pulled the Institute through during the time that he had been Chairman of the Finance Committee. Every credit was due to him. And now he

came forward with this scheme they ought all to do their best to help him.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried by an almost unanimous vote.

The Meeting to confirm the Resolution has been fixed for Monday, the 7th June.

#### The Architects' Benevolent Society.

The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, presided at the annual meeting of the Architects' Benevolent Society held in the rooms of the Institute on Wednesday, 12th May, and delivered the following address.—

As President I have the honour to move the adoption of the seventieth annual report of the Council of the Architects' Benevolent Society, and to announce at the same time that this admirable institution has now achieved its seventieth anniversary.

It was, as you know, founded in 1850, before most of us came into the world, and it is proper on this occasion that we should acknowledge with gratitude the benevolent foresight of our forebears by which those connected with the profession of architecture have so greatly benefited. Their names should not be forgotten, and I will ask you to rise while I recall them to you, as a tribute to their honoured memory.

*Patrons*, Sir Robert Smirke, R.A., George Stanley Repton, Esq. ; *President*, Sydney Smirke, Esq., A.R.A. ; *Trustees*, Charles Barry, Esq., Charles Robert Cockerell, Esq., R.A., Philip Hardwick, Esq., R.A. ; *Treasurer*, William Tite, Esq., F.R.S. ; *Council*, William Barnes, Esq., Francis Edwards, Esq., Benjamin Ferrey, Esq., William Gellier, Esq., George Gutch, Esq., Edward Charles Hake-will, Esq., Edward I Anson, Esq., William S. Inman, Esq., George Mair, Esq., David Mocatta, Esq., James Penne-therne, Esq., Ambrose Poynter, Esq., Anthony Salmon, Esq., George Smith, Esq., T. H. Wyatt, Esq.

They have passed away, but the great and good work they set afoot still lives and flourishes. Their first annual report was made in 1851, and it is interesting to read its opening paragraph :

Literary men, artists, and many other classes and professions dependent for their livelihood on profits of uncertain attainment and precarious tenure, have formed themselves into societies of this nature with the happiest results : but Architecture, the elder sister of the Fine Arts, has yet to be moved to associate in this good work. She has had the good fortune to be made subservient, in many noble monuments of Piety and Charity, to the benevolence of others ; it is time that she should give proofs, in her corporate character, to the same beneficent spirit. No Society framed on these principles and especially devoted to the interests of the architectural profession has yet been established : and it is in order to remove this reproach that the present appeal is now made to its members. It needs only a slight acquaintance with the profession to satisfy us that such an institution is urgently required. The frequency of private applications for individual relief too certainly proves its necessity, and the sad experience, which brings too often under our notice the struggles of genius and talent with undeserved misfortune, will not permit us to defer any longer the duty of soliciting your friendly co-operation.

The Architects' Benevolent Society was thus born two years before Napoleon III. came to the throne of France, and but thirteen years after the Royal Insti-

tute of British Architects received its Charter from William IV. Architects, we see, were not long in perceiving that the strengthening of their privileges by incorporation laid upon them responsibility as regards their weaker brethren; the offspring is consequently almost as venerable as its parent. For seventy years the Society has been the only philanthropic organisation which deals solely with architects, their dependents, and their widows and orphans who are left with insufficient means of livelihood.

The Report reminds us that it is the first to be submitted to you since the signing of peace. There is no longer need for the special work the Society carried on during the war, but the effects of that dreadful period it must for long feel and strive to relieve. For this, increased funds are urgently required, and I have to appeal on behalf of the Council for new subscribers, and for larger subscriptions, to enable them to meet the demands upon the Society. As President, I have the pleasant duty of expressing our hearty thanks to those who have helped to relieve the suffering, but I have to remind you that, unfortunately, a three guinea subscription has now only the beneficial capacity of one guinea. We need therefore to multiply our income by a factor of three in order properly to carry on the work of this admirable Society.

As you know, our functions are carried on in cordial relation with the Artists' General Benevolent Institution, the Professional Classes' Relief Council, and the National Relief Fund. To the Royal Institute of British Architects this Society is under the deepest obligations. In connection with the Civic Survey, for example, to which reference is made in the report, the Royal Institute provided the Galleries in which the work was done, with heating, lighting, cleaning, paper, materials, clerical assistance, salary of a special clerk, and gave the services of its librarian. It is not too much to say that without this material aid the work of the Civic Survey would have been impossible; and you will agree that we should make full and grateful acknowledgment on behalf of those who found it a timely help in their need.

Gentlemen, I will not detain you longer. There are innumerable adages by which I could reinforce my appeal; they have got a little rusty by age, constant repetition has somewhat dulled their edge, and it is useless as well as immoral to flog a willing horse. But "he gives twice who gives quickly" and "never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day" (the latter has especial point in view of the new Budget) are maxims we may well bear in mind when we think of the Architects' Benevolent Society.

#### The Folly of Modern Art.

Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Litt.D. [F.], delivered the fifth annual lecture on Aspects of Art, under the Henriette Hertz Trust, to the members of the British Academy on the 5th inst. Taking as his subject "The Tangled Skein; Art in England, 1800 to 1920," Sir

Reginald said that one must admit that all was not well with the Arts, and that in regard to the intellectual background, the point of view from which art should be approached, appreciated, and practised, we were worse off in the year 1920 than we were a hundred years ago. We had lost our tradition, and the public had got no standard of its own. The one clear voice of art, once understood of all men, had lost itself in an incredible confusion of tongues and the general anxiety to shout louder than one's neighbour. There were bad artists in the 18th century, but not a tithe of what there were in the 20th. Bad work was done, but it was seldom accepted as good, whereas nowadays it was advertised as the last word of genius. There was no definite standard of technique and craftsmanship in these days. The experiments of the 19th century in art had not been happy, and their mischievous effects had been intensified by the well-meant efforts of the State, ignorant of art, and at heart indifferent to it. As usual in England, art had been translated into terms of politics. Our State educational authorities seemed to think that artists could be turned out by the gross, given the necessary State-aided machinery, and did not realise that the result of their benevolence had been to set a premium on incompetence.

The critics had found that it was easier to write about the arts when the free flow of eloquence was not impeded by a knowledge of the subject or any acquaintance with their practice, and they had in recent years advanced to still further heights by inventing an Aunt Sally of what they called "Academic Art" and rigging up a fantastic theory of the æsthetic out of the studio talk of the raging hosts of the revolutionaries. Those who were most prolific of theories were often the least capable of carrying them out, and found it necessary to substitute the written or spoken word for the legitimate methods of expression of their art, and to cover up their technical shortcomings by the invention of a series of formulas which had this in common, that they one and all dispensed with technique. Thus a movement which might have begun with a genuine desire to extend the traditional limits of art had ended in an ever-accelerating rush for patent medicines. No sooner had one formula attained notoriety than it was succeeded by another, and we now looked for a new school every season. The Impressionists, the Cubists, were already old-fashioned. From a literary point of view there was more incident and material in these desperate scrambles than was to be found in the work of the sincere and patient artists. "*Epatez le bourgeois*," at all costs, was the cry of the new art--and, after all, papers must sell. Like Molière's *gens de qualité*, the art critics *savent tout sans avoir rien appris*, and thus, without technical knowledge of paintings, sculpture, or architecture, they were unable to instruct us what we were to admire in art, what was the business of the artist, and how he ought to carry it out. As for the artist, he was to have no voice in the matter at all; he must just do what he was bid, or take the consequence of being left out in the cold.

The papers lately announced the presence in a London gallery of a picture which the critics assured them transcended all contemporary art, and this was followed up by an exhibition of the work of a well-known or, he must be permitted to say, notorious French painter. The critics as one body rose to lyrical heights in their raptures. The public were told that this was no mere presentation of life, but life itself; a revelation, as it were, of some quintessential mystery of existence. They went in the requisite spirit of humility to that exhibition, and what did they find?—a collection of canvases which appeared to have no meaning at all, and no object except the negation of every quality of form, colour, and composition that painters in the past had ever sought to realize.

Referring to another much-praised exhibition, the speaker said that no ordinary person looking at the paint and canvas could have formed any idea what it was all about. This was the case with nearly all this work. As it stood, it was unintelligible, and sometimes it was difficult to escape the impression that it was intended to be so. Nature, the essential model and material of expression in all great paintings, was henceforward to be *quantité négligée*. Indeed, the logical conclusion would be that the artist should shut his eyes entirely, lest nature should contaminate the spiritual purity of his vision, for all was done, as children would say, out of his head. He might just as well do it on his head, so far as the spectator was concerned, for the artist was concerned solely with his own emotions, and if the result had no meaning for anybody else it was their fault, and no affair of the artist. Judging by the results, no training would seem to be necessary; all one had to do was to learn how to mix a few colours, draw any old line, and splash some paint on the canvas.

It was time that a halt was called in this race for the lunatic asylum, and that the artist returned to the old and only road. There was still but one road for the artist—unwearied effort to perfect his power of expression in his art, a patient study of colour, of light and shade, of form and its ordering, thought and invention, and the sure hold of the artist's own ideas, no matter what the critics said or the fashions called for. Their hope lay with artists themselves. Fresh problems were constantly arising. They could not stand still, and it was a good sign that among artists there was no disposition to do so. The folly of modern art was due to the camp followers rather than to artists. Beauty was not to be caught by chance, or by the tricks of the mountebank. The hope of the future lay in the spirit of adventure, provided that it was steered by discipline and incessant duty and armed with all knowledge of the resources of the arts.

#### Threatened Destruction of City Churches.

The Commission appointed by the Bishop of London to consider the whole question of the City Churches have now presented their report. The Commission consisted of Lord Phillimore, Bishop

G. F. Browne, Archdeacon E. E. Holmes, Lord Hugh Cecil, Sir Wm. Collins, Sir Roland Blades, Mr. A. F. Buxton, the Hon. H. C. Gibbs, Sir Francis Green, Bt., and Sir Lulham Pound, Bt., with Bishop Browne as Secretary. The report deals with 47 benefices, with a total income of £53,000 a year. The Commissioners' main proposal is to divide the square mile of the City for ecclesiastical purposes into four Quarters, to be called the Bishops Gate Quarter, the Alders Gate Quarter, the Black Friars Quarter, and the Tower Quarter—each Quarter to be one parish, with a rector and four assistant clergy. Twenty-eight churches out of the forty-seven would be retained, and the following nineteen it is recommended should be demolished:—

All Hallows, Lombard Street.  
All Hallows, London Wall.  
St. Botolph, Aldgate (except Tower).  
St. Katherine Coleman.  
St. Clement, Eastcheap.  
St. Dunstan-in-the-East (except Tower).  
St. Magnus the Martyr (except Tower).  
St. Mary-at-Hill.  
St. Mary Woolnoth.  
St. Michael, Cornhill (except Tower).  
St. Alban, Wood Street.  
St. Anne and St. Agnes.  
St. Botolph Aldersgate.  
St. Dunstan-in-the-West (except Tower).  
St. Mary Aldermanbury.  
St. Michael Royal (except Tower).  
St. Nicholas Cole Abbey.  
St. Stephen, Coleman Street.  
St. Vedast (except Tower).

The report is signed by all of the ten Commissioners with reservations in two cases. Sir Wm. Collins is of opinion that at any rate two or three of the churches recommended for demolition are well worthy of preservation. Lord Hugh Cecil, in a full note, dissents from such parts of the report as deal with the removal of churches and the sale of their sites.

The Commission's extraordinary proposal to demolish nineteen of the City's old, historic churches has raised a storm of protest in the Press and at public meetings. *The Times* points out that this is a matter of far more than ecclesiastical concern. The buildings themselves, apart from their sacred purpose, represent when taken together something that can never be replaced when once destroyed. As works of art, within and without, they are an adornment to London which can be paralleled in no other city in the world. One and all possess features which it is beyond the power of modern art to rival.

The Institute's protest made in a letter to *The Times* some two years ago when the demolition of St. Olave's Church, Southwark, was under discussion applies a hundredfold in the present case. Characterising the proposal as an outrage, the letter appealed for the support of all who are jealous for the beauty of London and appreciate the historic buildings which are its characteristic feature. "The value of our monuments," it points out, "is not to be judged merely by the use to which they can be put by those to whom they are entrusted; still less are their sites to be considered as financial assets, to be sold for commercial purposes at any profitable opportunity. They are the property of the nation and the especial pride of London. In the case of St. Olave's, money—to whatever purpose it



may be put—is the sole reason for its demolition: the building is perfectly sound and its beauty unimpaired.”

Appended are extracts from letters which have appeared in *The Times*:—

From Mr. Arthur Keen [F.], Hon. Secretary R.I.B.A.:—There will be no uncertain sound in the opposition to be raised by architects to the destruction that is proposed . . . they value the buildings sufficiently for their intrinsic merit to offer the most strenuous opposition to the destruction of them. Nowhere did Wren prove his versatility and resource so well as in our City churches. He built about 50 of them without repeating himself once, although in many instances the problems presented were practically identical. In all cases the variety in plan, composition, proportion, and detail is quite extraordinary. But the interest of these churches lies not alone, or mainly, in the skill they display, but in their beauty. St. Mary-at-Hill, one of the threatened churches, has one of the most beautiful interiors in this country. St. Anne and St. Agnes, in a homelier fashion, is very beautiful; St. Magnus is a really fine, dignified church. All Hallows, London Wall, is one of the few remaining examples of Dance's work, and quite a fine interior. There is not one that can be spared. . . . The suggestion to leave the towers standing shows how utterly the Commissioners fail to grasp the real value of these churches in their relation to the life and growth of London. We want them to be left complete with their monuments and organs, their beautiful work in metal and plaster, and everything that belongs to them as part of the history of London. They were built by the contributions of those who had been wasted first by pestilence and then by fire, and the sacrifice to be made by their descendants who require to build churches at the present time is far less than theirs.

From Mr. A. R. Powys, Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings:—In the face of the proposed destruction of these churches it is terribly difficult to refrain from sarcasm. That the Church should do this thing, that the guardian of Spiritual things should desire to destroy these concrete examples of the love of beauty, is unbelievable. It is not for the sake of history, though that is important. It is not for the sake of the great architects who designed them, though that is good reason, but it is that they represent in an increasingly vulgar and commercial city the other point of view, a point of view which emphasises the fact that man does not live by bread alone. A suggestion is made that the powers vested in laymen in the control of the Church by the Enabling Act should be used to prevent this thing. Let the mass of Churchmen show that the Church is still to be trusted to preserve the concrete expression of material sacrifice, of fine thought, of beauty and of good workmanship.

From Mr. Edward Warren, F.S.A. [F.]:—I have just returned to this country from another and distant one where the British civil administration has taken charge of the ecclesiastical estate of the Mahomedan Church, and where capable and zealous British officers are most carefully repairing the fabric of ancient Mahomedan mosques and their appurtenances. I am shocked and astonished, on my return, to learn of a scheme, fostered by the Church itself, for demolishing no fewer than 19 of those ancient temples of the Christian faith which are the chief ornaments of the City of London. Many of them beautiful, some of them the work of great architects, and all of them interesting, they still stand as beacons of that Faith, having happily

escaped, until now, both German bombs and commercial cupidity. The excuse for the sale of these evidences of bygone sanctity, with their consecrated sites, and of the demolition of so much irreplaceable beauty, so many examples of extreme architectural and historical value, appears to be that of gaining money for ecclesiastical buildings or other purposes outside the City of London. Will London condone and accept this colossal act of vandalism and astounding disrespect on the part of the Church for the palpable vestiges, within her bounds, of the Faith that Church professes?

At a meeting of the Corporation of the City of London on the 7th Mr. Deputy Ellis, having moved a resolution protesting against “such wholesale destruction of City landmarks,” asked to have read a letter which had been received from Mr. Arthur Keen Hon. Secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects. “The view of my Council,” observed the writer, “is that except in cases of urgent public need no single church in the City should be sacrificed. It seems probable that in asking for many the Commission hopes that ultimately a few of these churches may be given up, but the whole principle of the destruction of old, historic churches in the interests of new ones is wrong, and should be strenuously resisted. My own view is that in some cases other users should be found for these churches, and there may be public bodies or societies to whom, under proper restrictions as to upkeep and access, they might be leased.”—Mr. Deputy Millar Wilkinson said that the towers left of the churches destroyed would be monuments of a disgraceful episode. He hoped the Lord Mayor would call a Guildhall meeting: at such a gathering “this horrible project would be howled down by a thousand voices.”—Alderman Sir Lulham Pound, who is a member of the Commission, referred to the strictures made upon the report as a most extraordinary outbreak of uninformed criticism. It was not proposed, he said, to remove any church that had great architectural merit.

Sir Reginald Blomfield, speaking at a gathering of the London Society, said that these churches had for generations won the admiration and affection of all educated people as masterpieces of their kind. Yet it had not been thought necessary to call in the opinion of any artist. No architect or historian of architecture had been consulted. The Commission seemed to have grasped two out of a very large group of factors—first, that money was wanted, and second, that it could be raised by the sale of these churches, which had a considerable financial value. The Council of the Society are arranging a lecture on the 19 threatened churches, to which representatives of societies interested will be invited.

At a meeting of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, Lord Ferrers presiding, it was agreed that if these monuments are to be saved, the Church could not be expected to bear the whole of the loss involved.

The Commission's report is published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, price 1s. It contains a map showing the four ecclesiastical “quarters” into which it is proposed that the City shall be divided, with the 19 churches whose removal is recommended marked in black and the remainder in red. The map shows something of the vicissitudes which the City churches have passed through before and since the Great Fire. Of the 91 churches burnt down in 1666, only 57 were rebuilt, and 23 of these have since been demolished. Eight churches which escaped the fire are not touched by the Commission.

**Proposed Stoppage of "Luxury" Buildings.**

The President has received the following letter from Mr. Edward F. Jackson, President of the London Master Plasterers' Association :—

4th May, 1920.

DEAR SIR,—I am desired by the Committee of the London Master Plasterers' Association to convey to you their grateful thanks for your letters to *The Times* with reference to the proposed stoppage of all so-called "Luxury" Buildings.

This Association comprises practically all the London firms manufacturing interior architectural decorations, such as fibrous plaster work, wood and stone carving, plain and decorated high-class woodwork, carton-pierre and composition work, etc. They employ a large number of skilled men, all of whom are unsuited and unfitted for work on housing schemes.

If the threatened refusal to allow new buildings to be proceeded with becomes an accomplished fact we fear a large amount of unemployment, not only amongst these workmen, but also amongst the numerous artists, modellers, draughtsmen, clerks, etc., who are also employed in this particular branch of the building trade.

We strongly feel that these proposed building restrictions will be a great mistake and will not advance the building of new houses.

We endorse what you say in your letter to *The Times* of 30th April, namely :—

"That every kind of building must be encouraged so that more labour may be attracted to and absorbed into the industry."

Let every building go on. The unions are quite strong and sensible enough to prevent too many men of the particular class required for housing schemes being employed on any one new building and to direct their members to work where they are urgently required for houses. These new buildings will of necessity be slow in their erection, but they will be proceeding, and also all the interior work made by the various allied building trades, necessary for their ultimate completion.

We shall not then have to experience the lack of work, which we accepted without complaining during the war, but should it occur now, as occur it will if new buildings are stopped, will be very unfair to us and of no advantage to the housing schemes.—I am, sir, yours obediently.

EDWARD F. JACKSON.

**Bloomsbury Site for London University.**

At a meeting of the Senate of the University of London held last week, it was announced that the Government had offered to provide a site of about 11½ acres behind the British Museum for new headquarters of the University and for colleges and institutions connected with it.

The Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Russell Wells) read a letter which the Chancellor (Lord Rosebery) had received from the President of the Board of Education expressing the

sympathetic interest with which the Government had watched the efforts which the Universities were making to fit themselves for the task that the period of reconstruction imposed on them, and to take advantage of the opportunities for extending their usefulness which were offered by the steadily growing public recognition of the national importance of a good system of University Education. The letter continued :—

It has seemed to the Government that this is a suitable time at which to make an offer which they have long had under consideration and which they think should help to remove a good many of the administrative difficulties involved in the housing of the University headquarters in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington. The Government are now in a position to acquire a site of about 11½ acres behind the British Museum, and they offer to devote it gratis and in perpetuity to the provision of a site for new headquarters of the University and for colleges and institutions connected with it, including King's College, whose premises in the Strand are now inadequate for its needs. . . .

It had at one time been my hope that the Government would be able to offer not only the site of which I have spoken, but also the buildings for the new University Headquarters: the Government have, however, reluctantly come to the conclusion that, while they are prepared to make such provision as will secure the University from loss in respect of maintenance charges on the new University Headquarters, the state of the national finances did not justify their undertaking to provide the cost of the buildings themselves from public funds. They feel that in a matter in which the honour and dignity of the City of London is so nearly concerned, the University can look with confidence to the generosity and public spirit which have always marked the citizens of London: it can do this with the greater assurance that recent years have shown an increasing readiness upon the part of the great business community to respond to appeals for University purposes.

The matter was referred to a special committee for consideration and report as speedily as possible.

The official description of the property, which it is proposed to purchase from the Duke of Bedford, is as follows :

The site comprises about 11½ acres on the north side of the British Museum Extension. It comprises the land bounded on the east by Russell Square, Upper Montague Street, and Woburn Square; on the north by Gordon Square and Torrington Place; on the west by Malet Street, and on the south by Montague Place, and includes, therefore, the houses 25 to 37 Russell Square, 1 to 7 Upper Montague Street, 20 to 41 Woburn Square, 1 to 6 Gordon Square, 2 to 34 and 37 to 69 Torrington Square, and also Torrington Square itself. British Museum Avenue, the part of Keppel Street leading from Russell Square to Malet Street, the four vacant plots abutting on Keppel Street and the British Museum Avenue, and the strip of vacant land between Malet Street and the backs of the houses on the west side of Torrington Square.

Bloomsbury during the last quarter of a century has definitely changed from a residential to a professional quarter. Many societies and other organisations have secured leases in the district, and it is also much favoured by architects, surveyors, solicitors, and other professional men. Recently, too, there have been signs that it might revive as a purely residential area, and Bedford Square, in particular, finds favour.

Bloomsbury, especially in the area immediately north of the British Museum Extension, has long shown that it is in a transition state. Hoardings, temporary buildings, shored-up sides of old houses, rough excavations, and new vaulting have all indicated that a scheme of a comprehensive and far-reaching kind was contemplated.

## UNIFICATION AND REGISTRATION.

### Representation of Licentiatees on the Unification Committee.

The General Meeting of Licentiatees summoned by the Council to elect seven representatives to serve on the Unification and Registration Committee\* was duly held at the Institute on Tuesday, 18th May, at 4.30 p.m., the President, Mr. John W. Simpson, presiding.

The Secretary having at the opening of the proceedings read to the Meeting the Report and Resolutions referred to in the footnote below, the President suggested that the Meeting should nominate seven Licentiatees as the nucleus on which to vote; further nominations, if made, would take the form of amendments.

In the discussion which ensued general regret was expressed at the poor attendance, thirty-six Licentiatees only being present, out of a total of 1,735. It was pointed out that Licentiatees had never before had an opportunity of meeting together: that they were quite unknown one to the other, and were placed in the difficulty of voting for men of whom they had no knowledge. The suggestion was made that the election should be postponed: that Licentiatees should be circularized inviting them to send in nominations, and that a further meeting should be called to consider them. Mr. JOHN E. YERBURY, who attended from Coventry, said that he thought no better result would be reached by the adoption of such a course, and suggested that the meeting should adjourn for half an hour or so to enable those present to talk the matter over. The President favoured the suggestion, and invited those present to partake of tea, which was ready to be served in the room, and to reassemble afterwards.

On resuming, Mr. CLIFFORD EWEN suggested adjourning for a month, to allow of Licentiatees being circularized, and that the next meeting should be held at 8 p.m. Several speakers, however, discouraged adjournment, and the PRESIDENT observed that though the Meeting was small it seemed to be fairly representative members being present not only from the London district, but also from distant provincial towns. He thought that those who had put themselves to the trouble of attending the meeting might be taken to be the leaders of their class, and that very worthy representatives could be chosen from them. Should it be found afterwards that a delegate was non-representative, surely means could be found to remove him. Referring to the suggestion of a previous speaker, that a Committee should be formed independently of that in question to represent the views of Licentiatees, the President said that it contained the germ of a very good idea.

Mr. FRANCIS TAYLOR (Burnley) said that if Licentiatees did not take an interest in this subject he did not know what they would take an interest in. The matter had been brought forward by the Institute in a splendid and broad-minded manner, and representatives of the Institute had given the impression that they would play the game and do what was right. The President should be thanked for his tolerance and assistance. If Licentiatees' representatives were selected that day, a special meeting of Licentiatees should be called, at which the selected men should be required to attend and explain their views and report upon what had taken place.

After further discussion, names were put forward as representatives, and finally, on the motion of Mr. Wm. McLelland (Ayr, N.B.), seconded by Mr. Charles Pickford (London), the following gentlemen were selected to represent the Licentiatees:—Mr. H. Ascroft, Mr. Francis Taylor, Mr. Samuel Taylor (Burnley), Mr. John E. Yerbury,

Mr. H. R. Bird (Brentwood), Mr. A. J. Penty, and Mr. George Carter, all of London except where otherwise indicated.

A very hearty vote of thanks to the President concluded the meeting.

### Representation of "Unattached" Architects on the Unification Committee.

A meeting of architects not belonging to any professional organisation was held at the Institute on Thursday, 20th May, 1920, at 4.30 p.m. The meeting took place by invitation of the Council, and its purpose was to elect three representatives of "unattached" architects to serve on the Committee which is being formed to prepare a scheme of unification and registration.\* The architects attending included representatives from Bournemouth, Crawley, East Grinstead, Manchester, Liverpool, Burnley, and other places, besides a number of London men.

The PRESIDENT, on taking the chair, addressed a few words of welcome to the visitors, and, having explained the object of the meeting, said that in appointing the representatives asked for, the meeting would not commit itself to any particular policy; this would be settled by the Committee when formed. All that was desired in calling the meeting was that "unattached" architects might not feel that the scheme to be thrashed out had been concocted solely by architects who belonged to the various professional bodies.

The PRESIDENT proposing to leave the Chair to allow those present to nominate their own Chairman, the meeting signified its desire that the President should remain in the Chair, and a motion to that effect was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT stated, in answer to a question, that every means at the Institute's disposal had been taken to notify unattached architects of the meeting; and the SECRETARY, giving details, said that six weeks ago notices of the meeting were published in the professional press as well as in the Institute JOURNAL. This notice had since been repeated by advertisement in two successive issues of each of the building papers, and these papers had also published editorials on the subject. Letters had also been written to every architectural body in the Kingdom and to some two hundred members of the Institute in various parts of the country asking for the names of "unattached" architects, and when such names were forthcoming a personal letter was written to each of them.

In reply to Mr. ROBERT S. WEIR, the PRESIDENT stated that the whole of the architectural associations outside London were in sympathy with the Institute in this matter, and nominations had now been received from all of them.

Mr. WEIR said that, as he understood it, the object was to bring all architects into one great trade union and subject them to rules and restrictions. In fact, it was to be another big "ring" to dictate to the public and look after the interests of architects. As Sir Reginald Blomfield said over five-and-twenty years ago, if the Institute did not take care it would advance the interests of architects and not the interests of architecture. This movement would trammel those of them who had the courage to go their own way. Architects whose work was of the first order had for various reasons kept clear of the Institute and other architectural bodies, and these would want to know more about this proposal before proceeding.

Mr. A. CASSÉ (East Grinstead) suggested that of the three representatives appointed one should represent London, another the larger provincial towns, and the third the smaller provincial towns.

Mr. DENNAGE (London) asked whether, if "unattached" architects became members of this huge body, they would be distinguished from those who were at present members of the Institute or of Allied Societies. He had heard it

\* See Report of the Charter Committee and the Resolutions passed by the Special General Meeting of the 22nd March approving the Council's proposal to appoint a Committee representative of the whole profession to prepare a scheme for the Unification and Registration of Architects (JOURNAL R.I.B.A., 10th April 1920, pp. 234 and 239).

mooted that there were to be Chartered Architects and Registered Architects.

The PRESIDENT said that if there were to be any such distinction it would be the work of this Committee, not of the Institute nor of the Allied Societies. The Committee was representative, as far as possible, of the whole profession. The "unattached" architects would be given their voice, and the decisions would be those of the Committee, not of the Institute.

Mr. CHARLES HODGSON (Walthamstow) said that many of them were "unattached" because they were very busy men and had not been able to fall into line with some of the requirements of the professional associations. But they were indebted to the Institute for calling the meeting together. It was a good thing to know that "unattached" architects were not to be left out of these deliberations. Unity was strength, and when they saw a man, after calling himself at first a paperhanger, gradually assume the titles of decorator, builder, estate agent, and finally architect, it did occur to some of them that the profession was not sufficiently protected. The time was ripe for them to band themselves together and make some effort to secure unification. He hoped that representatives would be appointed, even if the meeting was not as full and representative as they could wish.

Mr. SANDERS (London) said that the thanks of the "unattached" members were due to the Institute for calling them together. He was heartily in sympathy with the unification proposals if a common ground could be gained whereby those architects who had been outside the organizations could be brought into association with this new body. With regard to registration, he hoped that care would be taken that men who had been practising for a number of years and who had done original and valuable work would not be excluded.

Mr. DUNNAGE having suggested that the meeting might adjourn for half an hour so that those present could make one another's acquaintance and be prepared with nominations, the PRESIDENT observed that he was about to make the same suggestion and had ordered tea to be served.

On resumption after the adjournment, the PRESIDENT having asked for nominations, Mr. DUNNAGE suggested the following six gentlemen upon whose names those present might vote: Mr. Mooring Aldridge (Bournemouth), Mr. G. F. H. Banks (Crawley), Mr. Cawthorne (London), Mr. Joseph Sunlight (Manchester), Mr. Hodgson (London), Mr. Marshall (Liverpool).

Mr. CAWTHORNE nominated Major Pawley, of London.

Mr. BANKS expressed regret that he would not be able to stand.

Mr. MARSHALL suggested that it might be well to include a representative from the Midlands or the North-East, in whose favour he would gladly retire.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that only three could be elected, and in reply to questions said that he did not think the Committee would make large demands upon their time. As soon as the general policy was settled, it was obvious that details must be worked out by a small executive, and that executive would circulate the proposals as drafted to the members of the Committee.

Voting papers were then distributed, and a ballot was taken, which resulted in the election of Mr. G. E. Marshall, 3 Cook Street, Liverpool; Mr. A. H. Mooring Aldridge, Hinton Chambers, Bournemouth; and Mr. A. M. Cawthorne, 121 Victoria Street, S.W.

The PRESIDENT declared these gentlemen duly elected to the Unification and Registration Committee as representing architects unattached to any representative body. The result, the President added, bore out Mr. Cass's suggestion that one member should represent London, one the larger provincial towns, and one the smaller.

The proceedings closed with votes of thanks to the Institute and to the President.

#### Government Restrictions on Building.

The Glasgow Institute of Architects have had reprinted and issued to the Members of Parliament for their province, Mr. Simpson's warning letter in *The Times* of 19th April calling attention to the mischief that will result to the building industry should it be decided to make use of the powers prohibiting certain classes of building that may be exercised under the Housing (Additional Powers) Act of last December. A covering letter states that since the passing of the Act the Council of the Glasgow Institute have had under serious consideration the effect of the application of the restriction clauses upon the building industry, which they apprehend will be further imperilled by the drastic measures sanctioned by the Act. The Council invite consideration by Members of Parliament of the points raised by Mr. Simpson, and ask their assistance towards the repeal or amendment of the offending clauses.—Mr. C. J. MacLean, Secretary of the Glasgow Institute, writes that he has asked the Institute of Scottish Architects and the various Chapters thereof and the Building Trades Federations of the district to take similar action.

Mr. J. L. Rankin (Chairman of the Housing Committee of the Liverpool City Council), at a recent meeting said that he was anxious to dispel the idea that the Housing Committee was placing a ban upon all kinds of building other than house-building. Of 203 plans for various kinds of building operations which had come before the Prohibition Sub-Committee, notices of objection had been served in only 73 cases. In every one of these the owner had been given an opportunity of stating his case: in 49 cases permission to proceed was given; five cases were postponed, and in 19 instances only had prohibition orders been recommended. In five of these cases the plans referred to motor garages, four to cinemas, one to a theatre, one to a shop front, two to showrooms, and six to warehouses. The builders of garages were told that if they adopted concrete or wood for their structures no objection would be raised. The Prohibition Sub-Committee was composed of business men, and they could be depended upon not to place any unnecessary obstacles in the way of buildings which would be of benefit to the commerce and industry of the city.

#### The Rome Scholarship in Architecture.

The Rome Scholarship in Architecture, offered by the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, which is of the value of £250 per annum and tenable at the British School at Rome for three years, has been awarded, on the recommendation of the Faculty of Architecture, to Mr. Frederick Orchard Lawrence, B.Arch. Liverpool [A.]. The second award (£100) was to Mr. Wesley Dougill [A.], and the third (£50 respectively) to Messrs. Eric Arthur and Alfred Koerner. The Jarvis Studentship (£200 per annum), also tenable at the British School at Rome for two years, was not awarded.

Mr. Lawrence is a graduate of the Liverpool University School of Architecture, and Messrs. Dougill and Arthur undergraduates of the same School. Mr. Lawrence entered the Liverpool School of Architecture in 1910, and took the five years' course for the degree in Architecture (B. Arch.), graduating in 1915. He then entered the Army, and served with the Royal Engineers for four years in France, Egypt,

and Palestine. Before enlisting he was in the office of Messrs. Briggs & Thornely, of Liverpool, with whom he is at present engaged.

The Competition was in two stages—(A) an Open Examination, (B) a Final Competition. The subject set for the Open Examination was a "Courts of Justice." The Final Competition was held *en loge* in the rooms of the R.I.B.A., the subject set being "Houses of Parliament for a British Colony."

The Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome, which conducted the Competition, is composed of Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. (Chairman), Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., Sir R. Lorimer, R.S.A., John W. Simpson, P.R.I.B.A., Ernest Newton, R.A., Professor W. R. Lethaby, and Professor C. H. Reilly (Liverpool University), the last member standing down from the judging, as Liverpool Students were in the Final round.

Mr. Harold Chalton Bradshaw [A.] has been elected Hon. Secretary to the Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome. Mr. Bradshaw was the first Rome Scholar in Architecture and won the distinction in 1913 at the age of 19, when he was a student of the University of Liverpool. In January, 1920, he completed his scholarship work after a break of four years in the Army. He is at present assistant in the Department of Architecture of the University of London, University College. His brilliant scholarship work, which was exhibited at the Grafton Galleries last February, was the subject of a notice in the JOURNAL for 6th March [p. 203].

#### The Inter-Allied Housing and Town-Planning Congress, 3rd-9th June.

The programme is to hand of the Inter-Allied Housing and Town Planning Congress to be held in London next month, which is being organised by the National Housing and Town Planning Council in consultation and co-operation with the Ministry of Health, the Board of Trade, the Ministry of Labour and other Government Departments. The proceedings will be spread over seven days, beginning Thursday, 3rd June, and ending Wednesday, 9th June. The 3rd and 4th June will be devoted to meetings at the Central Hall, Westminster, for the discussion of the following subjects:

1. National Post-War Housing and Town Planning Policies.
2. The Preparation and Carrying into Effect of National Programmes to secure Proper Housing Conditions for every Family.
3. The Minimum of Housing Accommodation necessary to provide for the full Development of a Happy Family Life.
4. Standards of Building Construction and the Development of New Methods; the Use of New Materials.
5. National and Regional Town and Rural Planning Developments.

A volume of reports will be submitted to the Congress consisting of a compilation from the replies to a series of questionnaires sent to leading housing reformers in all the countries invited to send representatives to the Congress.

Visits to study entirely new Housing and Town Planning Schemes will extend over five days. Schemes to be visited include Housing Schemes of the Bristol City Council, Rural Housing Schemes in the neighbourhood of Bristol or *en route* to Bristol, Housing Schemes of the Birmingham

City Council, Rural Housing Schemes *en route* to Birmingham, Urban Housing Schemes in the Home Counties, Rural Housing Schemes in the Home Counties. Visits to study the best examples of pre-war Housing and Town Planning have been arranged, among them Bournville Village, Hampstead Garden Suburb and Letchworth Garden City.

The Prime Minister is Hon. President of the Congress; Hon. Vice-Presidents include representatives of all parties in the State.

The R.I.B.A. representatives are Professors Adshead and Patrick Abercrombie, and Mr. W. Curtis Green.

The offices of the Congress are 41, Russell Square, W.C.; and information as to membership will be supplied there on application to Mr. Henry R. Aldridge, Secretary of the Congress.

#### R.E. War Memorial Scholarships.

Colonel F. E. G. Skey, Secretary of the R.E. War Benefits Committee, asks us to announce that applications for Educational Scholarships may now be made on behalf of eligible children, and he invites members of the Institute who may know of deserving cases to put him in touch with them. Three classes of Scholarship are available, viz. :—

"A" Scholarships of £40 per annum, for children of Officers and Other Ranks of Royal Engineers, including Regulars, Special Reserve, Territorial Force, and New Army, who before the war were in a position to send their children to Public Schools, etc. Tenable between the ages of 10 and 18 years, the grants to be reviewed after four years. Ten scholarships at present available.

"B" Scholarships of £15 per annum, for children of Warrant Officers, N.C.O.'s, and Men, to assist the children to go on to a Technical or Secondary School. Tenable between the ages of 13 and 16 years. Forty scholarships at present available.

"C" *Kitchener Scholarships*. At present limited to one of £40, and two of £15, under the same conditions as "A" and "B" respectively.

Applications to be considered in the first adjudication should be received by 1st June, 1920. Forms of application can be obtained from the Secretary, R.E. War Benefits Committee, R.E. Institute, Chatham.

Further donations to the R.E. War Memorial will be gratefully received by the Secretary, R.E. War Memorial, The Cottage, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.

#### 'Royal Academy' Schools: New Tests for Admission. \*

Certain changes have been made in the tests for admission to the Royal Academy Schools, which will take effect after 10th June next. The tuition given in the schools is free, and valuable studentships and prizes are awarded to successful students.

Application for admission to the schools of painting, sculpture, and architecture may be made at any time. Each applicant must fill in a form to be obtained from the Secretary, Royal Academy, Piccadilly, W.1, and must deliver it with the specimens of work required, addressed to the keeper at the schools entrance, Burlington-gardens, W.1. These specimens are left—entirely as regards painting and architecture, and largely as regards sculpture—to the applicant's own choice, but they are expected to show considerable experience and a high standard of merit. If the work submitted has these qualities, the applicant will be admitted as a probationer for a period not exceeding three months. On passing successfully the period of pro-

bation, the applicant will become a student for a term of years, subject to satisfactory attendance and progress.

#### British Institution Architectural Scholarships.

The British Institution are offering among other Scholarships this year two in Architecture of the value of £50 each, tenable for two years and payable quarterly. The Scholarships are open to all Art students (under twenty-five years of age on 1st November, 1920) who have obtained a Gold Medal, or a Scholarship or Money Prize of the minimum value of £5 in any Art School in the United Kingdom. The Examination will take place in November. Candidates must submit for examination the following works:—

(1) A measured drawing of a portion of an existing building, on a half imperial sheet of paper, together with the actual sketches and dimensions from which the drawing was made. (2) A free-hand drawing of a classic or Renaissance piece of ornamental relief sculpture, on a half imperial sheet of paper. (3) An ornamental bridge over the water of a laid-out garden or public place. The span is to be taken as about 50 feet net, and the construction of bridges is to be studied. The height of passage-way beneath is to be about 10 feet above water-level at the highest point. The bridge is to be roofed in, and its approaches and its entrance façades from the garden, as well as the water façade, are to be designed. The materials can be stone, brick or concrete, any of these materials being used entirely or combined, or in conjunction with oak timber, and with tiles, lead, shingles, or other roofing. The water can be considered either as a pool or as an embanked river, the banks some 18 inches above water-level. The perspective is to take special account of the composition of the bridge in connection with its imagined surroundings.

#### The Civic Education League's Summer Meeting.

The Civic Education League will hold their Summer School of Civics (the fifth Summer Meeting of its kind in England and Wales) at High Wycombe, Bucks, during the fortnight from Saturday, 31st July, to Saturday, 14th August, 1920. The teaching and study of social subjects will be on the same lines as at previous meetings, but will be further developed and extended so as to meet some of the special needs of to-day. Included in the programme will be short courses of lectures on Sociology, Social Philosophy, Social Psychology, the Principles and Practice of Sex-Education, Problems of the Industrial System, and Methods of Teaching Civics. Advanced tutorial courses will be arranged if a sufficient number of students offer themselves. It is hoped also to arrange a course for speakers on Citizenship. There will be an Exhibition of maps, diagrams and other materials of interest to social students. *All interested in Civics, in Social Education, in Social Reconstruction, and in the particular Social Problems treated, are welcome as students.* Training College Lecturers, Teachers, Health Workers, and other Social Workers, will find the course of study specially helpful. Particulars of fees, accommodation, etc., may be obtained from Mr. W. Mann, Secretary, Summer School of Civics, Lепlay House, 65, Belgrave Road, S.W.1.

#### Form of Certificate for Payment to Builders.

The Practice Committee have taken up the suggestion made by Mr. Francis Hooper at the Annual General Meeting, and have in hand the preparation of a Form of Certificate for Payment to Builders.

## COMPETITIONS.

#### Gravesend War Memorial Competition.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above Competition are unsatisfactory. The Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the Competition.

#### A Warning to Architects.

The following letter addressed to the Secretary from a member of the Institute, which is published here by request of the Competitions Committee, gives an instance of the kind of thing that architects have to put up with when they take part in Competitions which do not conform to the Regulations laid down by the R.I.B.A.:—

DEAR SIR,—Further to mine of the 26th inst. *re* the — War Memorial Competition, a local — Company have now stepped in with a design of their own and an offer to erect a memorial to it, and this offer has been accepted. All the designs sent in to the Memorial Committee have therefore been thrown aside, and none of the competitors received any award, which serves them right for competing under such conditions.—Faithfully yours,

#### Competition for an Ideal Public House.

Messrs. Samuel Allsopp & Sons, Limited, are promoting a Competition for Plans for a Model Public House, where rest and refreshment may be obtained during the hours that alcoholic drinks may be served and also during prohibited hours. The promoters propose to build such houses in the provinces, and owing to the cost of building and present-day requirements great simplicity of design and lightness of construction are aimed at. Competitors are to have as free a hand as possible in solving the problem, subject to certain characteristics which the promoters have in view and which are indicated in the conditions. Externally, the promoters desire to see a modern building, but one more on the lines of an eighteenth-century inn than of a nineteenth-century public house. The winner of the first premium will be engaged as architect at the scale of remuneration sanctioned by the R.I.B.A. Designs must be sent addressed to Messrs. Samuel Allsopp & Sons, Limited c/o The Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W., on, or before the last day of June. The proposal and conditions of the competition were approved by the President, who appointed the Assessor, Mr. W. Curtis Green. Copies of the conditions may be obtained from Messrs. Samuel Allsopp & Sons, Limited, Burton-on-Trent.



## MINUTES. XIV.

At the Special General Meeting summoned by the Council under By-law 65, and held Monday, 10th May, 1920, at 8 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Walter Cave, *Vice-President*, announced the object of the meeting—viz., to consider the proposal of the Council to raise the entrance fees and subscriptions of Members and the contributions of Licentiates, and as a reason for the change called attention to the serious deficit in the Council's estimates for the current year [see Annual Report, p. 290].

The resolution as printed on the notice-paper having been moved from the Chair was seconded by Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood [F.], Chairman of the Finance and House Committee, who stated that it had only been by cheese-paring methods of economy, practised at the sacrifice of necessities, that it had been possible in recent years to keep the expenditure within the limits of the income of the Institute.

Mr. Sydney Perks, F.S.A. [F.], in supporting the resolution, compared the sums-total of the staff salaries as shown in the pre-war and post-war accounts of the Institute, and, contending that the increases granted were inadequate to meet the advance in the cost of living, urged the adoption by the Institute of the system of war bonuses and percentage increases which had been initiated by the Treasury and which was now in general adoption by municipal and other public bodies throughout the country.

The resolution having been put from the Chair, it was thereupon

RESOLVED, by an almost unanimous vote, that in order to provide funds to meet the increase in expenditure due to the general advance in prices an addition of one guinea be made to all entrance fees and subscriptions of Members and contributions of Licentiates: and that the necessary steps be taken to obtain the sanction of the Privy Council to such revision of By-law 17 as is required to give effect to this resolution.

The proceedings closed and the Meeting terminated at 8.45 p.m.

At the Fourteenth General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 17th May, 1920, at 8 p.m., Mr. Walter Cave, *Vice-President*, in the Chair, the Minutes of the General Meeting held 3rd May, having been published, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The decease was announced of Edmund Kirby, Past President of the Liverpool Architectural Association, elected *Associate* 1867, *Fellow* 1888, and placed on the list of *Retired Fellows* in 1917, and, on the motion of the Hon. Secretary, it was RESOLVED that the regrets of the Institute for his loss be entered on the Minutes, and that a message of sympathy and condolence be conveyed to his son, Mr. Bertram Kirby [F.].

The nomination for election was announced of 1 Hon. Fellow, 2 Hon. Associates, 19 Fellows, and 40 Associates [see the complete list, with names of proposers, on pp. 364 *et seq.*].

A Paper by Mr. Ben J. Lubschez, Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, on THE TWO GREAT RAILWAY STATIONS OF NEW YORK, was read by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Arthur Keen, and illustrated by lantern slides, and on the motion of Professor Adshead, *Vice-President*, seconded by Mr. W. R. Davidge [A.], Housing Commissioner for London, a Vote of Thanks was passed to Mr. Lubschez by acclamation.

A vote of thanks was also passed to Mr. Keen for reading the Paper, and was briefly acknowledged.

The proceedings closed and the Meeting separated at 9.35 p.m.

## NOTICES.

## Candidates for Election at the Business Meeting on 7th June.

AS HON. FELLOW.

HARDY: THOMAS, O.M. [*R.I.B.A. Essay Medalist* 1862], Max Gate, Dorchester. Proposed by the Council.

AS HON. ASSOCIATES (2).

DITCHFIELD: REV. PETER HAMPSON, M.A., F.S.A., The Rectory, Barkham, Wokingham, Berks. Proposed by Meivyn Macartney, E. Guy Dawber and the Council.  
PIPER: EDWARD WILLIAM HARVEY, Gyppeswyk, 12 Elms Road, Clapham Common, S.W.4. Proposed by Wm. Woodward, Beresford Pite and W. T. Oldrieve.

AS FELLOWS (19).

AGUTTER: THOMAS CHARLES [A., 1907], Superintending Civil Engineer, Admiralty, S.W., and 48 S. Mary Abbott's Terrace, Kensington, W.14. Proposed by H. D. Searles-Wood, Francis Hooper and Sir Banister Fletcher.

ANDERSON: Captain HERBERT COOPER, R.E. [A., 1909], Garrison Engineer, Aden Brigade, Aden, Arabia, and Fairholm, Woodford Road, Bramhall, Cheshire. Proposed by John Cubbon, Beresford Pite and Herbert H. Brown.

CULLEY: NORMAN [A., 1904], 13 John William Street, Huddersfield, and The Croft, Birkby, Huddersfield. Proposed by the Council.

CURTIS: SPENCER CAREY [A., 1904], Le Mont Saint, Guernsey. Proposed by Sir Charles A. Nicholson, Claude Ferrier and the Council.

ELMS: EDWARD FERNES MARSON [A., 1902], 25 Sackville Street, W.1. Proposed by Wilfred J. Hardcastle, E. Vincent Harris and W. H. Woodroffe.

GORDON: HENRY PERCY [A., 1904], Finsbury House, Blomfield Street, E.C., and Inglewood, Rickmansworth, Herts. Proposed by Maurice B. Adams, Arthur Ashbridge and Ernest Flint.

HALL: ALNER WILSON, M.C. [A., 1910], 17 Southampton Street, Bloomsbury, W.C., and "The Brambles," Chorley Wood, Herts. Proposed by Keith D. Young, G. H. Fellowes Prynne and William A. Pite.

HETT: LEONARD KEIR [A., 1911], 13 and 14 Great Castle Street, W.1, and Hapstead, Ardingly, Sussex. Proposed by F. W. Troup, H. P. G. Maule and W. Curtis Green.

MOBERLY: ARTHUR HAMILTON, M.A. Cantab. [A., 1910], 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., and 48 Hampstead Way, N.W.4. Proposed by E. J. May, H. P. G. Maule and Arthur C. Martin.

RICHLEY: NORMAN [A., 1919], Shire Hall, Durham and 44 Old Elvet, Durham. Proposed by W. Rushworth, F. Willey and W. T. Jones.

SHEPHERD: HERBERT [A., 1898], 117 Queen's Road, Bayswater, W.2, and "The Croft," Grove Park Gardens, Chiswick, W.4. Proposed by the Council.

SMITH: FRANCIS DANBY [A., 1902], Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.1, and 136 Rosendale Road, Dulwich, S.E.21. Proposed by Edwin T. Hall, Maurice B. Adams and Wm. Woodward.

TROUP: FRANCIS GORDON [A., 1910], 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., and 48 High Street, Hoddesdon. Proposed by Arthur C. Martin, E. J. May and W. A. Forsyth.

WOOD: ERNEST MARSHALL [A., 1909], c/o Messrs. Little, Adams & Wood, Hong-Kong, and Stameen, Canton. Proposed by E. Guy Dawber, A. Colbourne Little and H. W. Bird.

And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying examination:—

ARMSTRONG: CHARLES MONTEGUE CECIL, 5 High Street, Warwick, and Plestowes, Barford, Warwick. Pro-



- posed by Geoffrey Lucas, C. E. Bateman and W. A. Forsyth.
- EVILL: NORMAN, 67 George Street, Portman Square, W.1, and 24 Church Row, Hampstead, N.W. Proposed by Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Edmund Wimperis and Alfred B. Yeates.
- FARROW: JOHN WILFORD HILBERT, Oxford Chambers, East London, South Africa. Proposed by H. J. C. Cordeaux, Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., and Sir Banister Fletcher.
- LLOYD: THOMAS ALWYN, 32 Park Place, Cardiff. 3 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., and "Hafod-Lwyd," Rhiwbina, Cardiff. Proposed by Raymond Unwin, S. D. Adshad and Courtenay M. Crickmer.
- WAKEFIELD: BENJAMIN FREDERICK GEORGE, 14 Orchard Street, and Howard Road, Westbury Park, Bristol. Proposed by C. F. W. Denning, S. S. Reay and George H. Oatley.
- As ASSOCIATES (140).
- N.B.—The Special War Exemption candidates had in all cases qualified for registration as Students after 1909 and before the completion of their War Service, but were not actually registered till the dates mentioned against their names (see Regulation, JOURNAL, 9th November, 1919).
- ACKROYD: SAMUEL WILLIAM [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 22 Gladstone Street, Anlaby Road, Hull. Proposed by the Council.
- ADDEY: FREDERICK ARNOLD, P.A.S.I. [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 48 Penywern Road, Earl's Court, S.W. Proposed by William Dunn, W. Curtis Green and Robert Atkinson.
- ALLISON: WILLIAM, P.A.S.I. [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 1 Gordon Street, Gordon Square, W.C. Proposed by J. Ernest Franck, Arthur H. Newman and G. Reginald Farrow.
- ALLUM: STANLEY CHARLES [Special War Examination], 24 Chichester Road, Westbourne Square, Paddington. Proposed by W. E. Riley, G. Topham Forrest and John Hudson.
- ASHENDEN: HAROLD CAMPBELL, M.C. F.S.I. [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Ventnor House, Canterbury. Proposed by A. O. Collard, Percival M. Fraser and Alan E. Munby.
- ASHMAN: HERBERT WILLIAM [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Bryher, 52 Kingston Road, Teddington. Proposed by the Council.
- ASLIN: CHARLES HERBERT [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 73 Lennox Road, Hillsboro', Sheffield. Proposed by the Council.
- BATTISCOMBE: HUMPHREY [S., 1918—*Special War Exemption*], Beverley, Orpington, Kent. Proposed by H. P. G. Maule, F. Winton Newman and Henry V. Ashley.
- BINNIE: WILLIAM BRYCE [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Springwells Avenue, Airdrie, N.B. Proposed by Leonard Martin, E. Vincent Harris and Sir John Burnet.
- BLACKBURN: NORMAN ARTHUR [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Waynville, Westboro', Dewsbury. Proposed by William H. Thorp, J. Wreghitt Cannon and H. S. Chorley.
- BLACKFORD: JOSEPH [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Hartlebury, Kidderminster, Wores. Proposed by S. D. Adshad, C. Lovett Gill and A. E. Richardson.
- BLACKWELL: CHARLES CHRISTIE [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 20 Wentworth Road, Leicester. Proposed by Arthur H. Hind, William M. Cowdell and Charles Kempson.
- BLAMPFIED: ROY CHARLES [Special War Examination], The Croft, Samaris, Jersey. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., and E. Stanley Hall.
- BOYD: JOHN SHAW [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], Ashburn, Strone, Argyllshire. Proposed by J. Gaff Gillespie, John Keppie and James Salmon.
- BRADDELL: THOMAS ARTHUR DARCY [Special War Examination], 13 Old Quebec Street, Marble Arch, W.1. Proposed by Sir Ernest George, R.A., Oswald P. Milne and Alfred B. Yeates.
- BRODIE: ROBERT [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 66 Castle Road, Cathcart, Glasgow. Proposed by John Watson, John Keppie and David Salmond.
- BROOKS: CHRISTOPHER JOHN [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 4 Newton Mansions, Queen's Club Gardens, W.14. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice E. Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- BROOMHALL: THOMAS HARGREAVES [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 9 Park View, Walton, Wakefield, Yorks. Proposed by John Stuart, J. Wreghitt Cannon and H. S. Chorley.
- BRYCE: ANDREW DOUGLAS [Special War Examination], 68 Kirkstall Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.2. Proposed by F. M. Simpson, A. E. Richardson and Arthur Stratton.
- BUCHANAN: ALLAN POLLOCK MCKENZIE [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 274 Renfrew Street, Glasgow. Proposed by John Watson, John Keppie and Wm. B. Whitie.
- BURCHETT: HOWARD WILLIAM [Special War Examination], Sunningdale, Keston, Kent. Proposed by H. G. Crothall, H. Favarger and Harry Redfern.
- BUTCHER: HENRY FREDERICK [Special War Examination], c/o High Commissioner for New Zealand, Strand, W.C. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, E. Stanley Hall and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- CALDWELL: OLIVER REGINALD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Elmsdale, Alexandra Road, Penzance. Proposed by Henry White and the Council.
- CHING: WILMOT THORNE [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 4 Mitre Court, Temple, E.C.4. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, E. Stanley Hall and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- CLAYDON: LIFFORD [Special War Examination], 89 Sternedale Road, West Kensington, W.14. Proposed by G. A. Lansdown, Robert Atkinson and E. Stanley Hall.
- CLAYTON: CHARLES LAWRENCE [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Prince Albert Street, Brighton. Proposed by Philip M. Johnston, John George Gibbins and Barry Parker.
- COLLIN: BERTIE PHILLIPPS [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], Hummingham Vicarage, Leamington Spa. Proposed by W. H. Harrison, H. P. G. Maule and E. Turner Powell.
- CORNISH: CHARLES EDWIN [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Yeo Vale Cottage, Pilton, Barnstaple. Proposed by E. H. Harbottle, James Jerman and J. Archibald Lucas.
- COTTINGHAM: GARNET REGINALD [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 37 Vernham Road, Plumstead, S.E.18. Proposed by P. H. Adams, Andrew N. Prentice and Osborn C. Hills.
- COULSON: RICHARD CARTE [Special War Examination], 7 Elm Park Road, Chelsea, S.W.3. Proposed by Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Arthur W. Cooksey and Basil Oliver.
- COUPLAND: WILLIAM VERNON [Special War Examination], 82 Victoria Street, S.W.1. Proposed by Frederick Chatterton, W. H. Harrison and A. C. A. Norman.
- CRASKE: CLIFFORD WIGG [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 140 Hunter's Road, Handsworth, Birmingham. Proposed by Herbert T. Buckland, William Haywood and the Council.
- CROSSLEY: GEORGE [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Springfield, Baldon, near Shipley, Yorks. Proposed by W. Williamson, W. J. Morley and Eric Morley.
- CRICKSHANK: HERBERT WILLIAM [Special War Examination], 25 Examiners' Buildings, Strutt Street, Manchester. Proposed by A. Marshall Mackenzie, D. Barclay Niven and Herbert Wigglesworth.

- CULLEN: ALEXANDER [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 14 Hamilton Park Terrace, Glasgow, W. Proposed by James Lochhead, John Keppie and John Watson.
- CURTIS: HERBERT LEWIS [Special War Examination], 2 Anson Road, Tufnell Park, N.7. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, E. Stanley Hall and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- DAILEY: ARTHUR BENJAMIN [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 97 Elspeth Road, S.W.11. Proposed by Beresford Pite, A. E. Richardson and C. Lovett Gill.
- DODD: RONALD FIELDING [S. 1912—*Special War Exemption*], "The Cottage," Castletown, Isle of Man. Proposed by C. H. Reilly, E. Guy Dawber and S. D. Adshead.
- DOWNER: GEORGE EDWIN [Special War Examination], King Street, Feilding, New Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, E. Stanley Hall and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- DUNCAN: RONALD AVER [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 31A Givendor Road, West Kensington, W.14. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., and Maurice E. Webb.
- DERNFORD: WILLIAM JOHN [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 42 Rostrevor Road, S.W.6. Proposed by H. P. G. Maule, O. P. Milne and G. Topham Forrest.
- EATON: GEORGE MORLEY, P.A.S.I. [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 219 Burton Road, Derby. Proposed by Albert N. Bromley, H. G. Watkins and T. H. Thorpe.
- EDWARDS: KENNETH DREW [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Thornton, Thurlow Park, Torquay. Proposed by Percy Morris, James Crocker and James Jerman.
- EMES: JAMES ALBERT [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 14 Nightingale Square, Wandsworth Common, S.W. Proposed by Wm. Woodward, George Hornblower and John P. Briggs.
- EVANS: HENRY GORONWY [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Blaencenen, Gwynfe, Llangadock. Proposed by the Council.
- FILDES: GEOFFREY PHILIP [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 19 Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1. Proposed by Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and Ernest Newton, R.A.
- FISHER: HENRY NETTLETON, M.C. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 84 Hungerford Road, Camden Road, N.7. Proposed by F. M. Simpson, S. D. Adshead and Geoffry Lucas.
- FURNER: ARTHUR STANLEY [Special War Examination], 12 Normandy Avenue, High Barnet. Proposed by Paul Waterhouse, Sir Frank W. Wills and Robert Atkinson.
- GARRETT: STANLEY G. [Special War Examination], 35 Bedford Square, W.C. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, E. Stanley Hall and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- GLEN: ALEXANDER GRAHAM [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 2 Edmiston Drive, Ibrox, Glasgow. Proposed by David B. Hutton, John Keppie and Thomas L. Taylor.
- GOODSALL: ROBERT HAROLD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Oxford Street, Whitstable, Kent. Proposed by Oswald C. Wylson, J. Hatchard-Smith and E. C. P. Monson.
- GOODWIN: HARRY THOMAS [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 39 Granville Park, Blackheath, S.E. Proposed by W. E. Riley and the Council.
- GORDON: JOSEPH DAVIDSON [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Conway Square, Newtownards, Co. Down. Proposed by N. Fitzsimons, F. H. Tulloch and R. M. Young.
- GORDON: PERCY JAMES [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 7 Moore Street, Sydney, Australia. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and E. Stanley Hall.
- GOSTLING: WILFRID BERNARD, M.C. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 51 Park Avenue South, N.S. Proposed by W. E. Riley, Leonard Stokes and Major Harry Barnes, M.P.
- GRABHAM: STANLEY, P.A.S.I. [Special War Examination], 109 Oxford Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. Proposed by Lt.-Col. Joseph Spain, Thomas R. Milburn and G. T. Brown.
- GRANT: JOHN PETER DIPPY [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Bute Estate Office, Castle Street, Cardiff. Proposed by John Watson, Sir Robert Lorimer, A.R.A., and John Wilson.
- HAIGH: NORMAN CHARLES [Special War Examination], 8 Wilson Street, Wellington, N.Z. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., and Maurice E. Webb.
- HALE: PERCY EDWARD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 117 Forest Road, Dalston, N.E. Proposed by M. E. Collins, W. Campbell Jones and E. Jeaffreson Jackson.
- HAMILTON: IAN BOGLE MONTEITH, B.A. Oxon. [S. 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 16 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, W.C. Proposed by F. M. Simpson, John Coleridge and the Council.
- HAMILTON: THOMAS CRESSEY [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 41 Balmoral Terrace, Gosforth, Northumberland. Proposed by Arthur P. Plummer, Charles S. Errington and R. Burns Dick.
- HARRIS: WILFRED HENRY, P.A.S.I. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 76A Bedford Road, Clapham, S.W. Proposed by W. Herbert Hobday and the Council.
- HENSHALL: LOUIS SYDNEY, D.S.O. [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], Stockton Heath, Warrington. Proposed by C. H. Reilly, S. D. Adshead and the Council.
- HERFORD: THEODORE WELBY [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 27 Heaton Road, Withington, near Manchester. Proposed by John Slater, Percy S. Worthington and Paul Ogden.
- HODGES: JOHN STEWART [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 31 Kingswood Avenue, Brondesbury. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Henry M. Fletcher and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- HOLLAND: HARRY [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], The Orchard House, Richmond Hill, S.W. Proposed by Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Ernest Newton, R.A., and Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A.
- HOLROYD: FRANK [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 8 Warwick Place, Leeds. Proposed by W. Carby Hall, H. S. Chorley and J. Wreghitt Connon.
- HONEYMAN: HERBERT LEWIS [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 1 Graingerville South, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Proposed by Sir John Burnet, W. H. Wood and John Keppie.
- HOSSACK: JAMES DAVIDSON [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 27 Surbiton Hill Park, Surbiton. Proposed by Arthur J. Davis, E. Guy Dawber and Herbert Read.
- HOUSTON: JAMES [S., 1918—*Special War Exemption*], Glenlogan, Kilbirnie, Ayrshire. Proposed by T. L. Watson, Alexander N. Paterson and John Watson.
- HOWELL: JOHN ALLNUTT [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], "The Laurels," Cumnor, near Oxford. Proposed by Henry M. Fletcher, Herbert Wigglesworth and the Council.
- HUDSON: THOMAS [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 2 Cassiobury Park Avenue, Watford, Herts. Proposed by John B. Cass, Arthur J. Hope and the Council.
- INMAN: GORDON HENRY NISBET [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 7 Bedford Row, W.C.1. Proposed by W. Campbell Jones, W. H. Woodroffe and A. Blomfield Jackson.
- JACKSON: BURROUGH DE CARLE [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Chelston, Overbury Avenue, Beckenham. Proposed by Francis Hooper, H. P. G. Maule and Detmar Blow.
- JOHNSON: HENRY ANDREW [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], The Vicarage, Great Harwood, Blackburn.

- Proposed by John H. Woodhouse, Isaac Taylor and Edgar Wood.
- JOHNSON: REGINALD SIDNEY, M.C. [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 14 Stafford Road, Croydon. Proposed by Henry Tanner and the Council.
- JONES: SYDNEY STEVENSON [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Mossley Hill Drive, Sefton Park, Liverpool. Proposed by Arnold Thornely, T. E. Eccles and Frank G. Briggs.
- JONES: WILLIAM GEORGE EDMUND [*Special War Examination*], 54 Lexham Gardens, W.S. Proposed by Beresford Pite, William A. Pite and Alfred Cox.
- KAY: MITCHELL CRICHTON, M.C. [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 62 Westgate, Wakefield. Proposed by J. Donald Mills, W. Fleming Wilkie and P. H. Thoms.
- LAST: FREDERICK BERTRAM [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Bolton House, Sutton, Surrey. Proposed by H. P. G. Maule, Robert Atkinson and Henry M. Fletcher.
- LEGG: THEODORE ELLIS [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Intern, Mornington Road, Woodford Green, Essex. Proposed by H. Austen Hall, C. H. B. Quennell and F. Winton Newman.
- LOCHHEAD: ALFRED GEORGE [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Northbank Terrace, Glasgow, N.W. Proposed by John Keppie, Sir John Burnet and Sir Robert Lorimer, A.R.A.
- LOTHOUSE: WALLACE GEORGE [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 1 Cartland Road, King's Heath, Birmingham. Proposed by Alfred J. Dunn, J. Coulson Nicol and G. Salway Nicol.
- LOVE: ROBERT MACLAREN [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Treviscoe, Launceston, Cornwall. Proposed by George H. Widdows and the Council.
- LUTYENS: EADRED JOHN TENNANT [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 48 Burton Court, S.W.3. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, R.A., and O. P. Milne.
- McKAY: JOHN ROSS [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Parkside Terrace, Edinburgh. Proposed by Sir Robert Lorimer, A.R.A., John Wilson and F. W. Deas.
- MAKEY: SAMUEL ARMSTRONG HURST [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 12 Crossfield Street, Warrington. Proposed by Segar Owen, Sir Barister Fletcher and Isaac Taylor.
- MADDOCK: RICHARD HENRY [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Tremadoc, Egmont Road, Sutton, Surrey. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, Maurice E. Webb and E. Stanley Hall.
- MASON: HAROLD CLAYFORTH [S., 1917—*Special War Exemption*], Kelsick Road, Ambleside. Proposed by R. Stephen Ayling, S. D. Adshead and C. H. B. Quennell.
- MILLER: BERNARD ALEXANDER [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Pighton Vicarage, Birkenhead. Proposed by Edmund Kirby, Charles E. Deacon and E. Bertram Kirby.
- MILLER: ERIC STUART CAMPBELL [*Special War Examination*], 1 Russell Street, Pinedin, New Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, E. Stanley Hall and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- MOORE: JOHN D. [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Bayswater, Mackenzie Street, Lindfield, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., and Henry M. Fletcher.
- MORAN: ABERLE PERCY [*Special War Examination*], Auckland, New Zealand. Proposed by Robert Atkinson, G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A., and Maurice E. Webb.
- MORREY: PERCY, M.B.E. [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], Enderby, Clewe Road, Nantwich, Cheshire. Proposed by Francis Jones, Isaac Taylor and Frank B. Duckerley.
- MOUNTFORD: EDWARD WALLIS [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 4 Carlton Chambers, Lower Regent Street, S.W. Proposed by Walter Cave, H. D. Searles-Wood and W. Henry White.
- NICHOLSON: THOMAS [*Special War Examination*], Pow Street, Workington. Proposed by Sir Barister Fletcher, H. Percy Monckton and Andrew N. Prentice.
- ODOM: JOHN HENRY [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Kenbourne Grove, Sharrow, Shemeld. Proposed by Edward M. Gibbs, Charles B. Flockton and Adam F. Watson.
- O'DONOGHUE: RUPERT JOHN GORDON [*Special War Examination*], Westerton, Lynwood Avenue, Epsom. Proposed by Charles E. Varndell, O. P. Milne and Fred W. Marks.
- PAGE: THOMAS ALEXANDER [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 3 South View Terrace, South Shields. Proposed by J. T. Cackett, W. Milburn and Arthur B. Plummer.
- PIDSEY: WILFRID GOULD [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Sandrock, Pinhoe, Devon. Proposed by Walter Cave, James Crocker and James Jerman.
- PRICE: WILLIAM HAROLD [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 15 Orchard Street, Bristol. Proposed by Sir Frank W. Wills, C. F. W. Denning and George H. Oatley.
- PRYNNE: SHERARD JOHN HOWARD [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 40 Gunterstone Road, West Kensington W. 14. Proposed by H. P. G. Maule, Geo. H. Fellowes Prynne and Beresford Pite.
- READ: KENMUIR HARRY [*Special War Examination*], 35 Claremont Road, Bishopston, Bristol. Proposed by P. Morley Horder, Gilbert Fraser and Arnold Thornely.
- REED: WILLIAM JAMES [*Special War Examination*], 27 St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.1. Proposed by the Council.
- RICHARDSON: HERBERT CLIFFORD [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], St. Austell, Ashton-on-Mersey, Cheshire. Proposed by J. Coulson Nicol, G. Salway Nicol and Geo. H. Willoughby.
- RILEY: RICHARD HOLDEN, P.A.S.I. [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 613 Bolton Road, Ewood, Blackburn. Proposed by Frank G. Briggs, Arnold Thornely and Walter Stirrup.
- ROBERTS: ARTHUR BRAVER LLEWELLYN [S., 1919—*Special War Exemption*], 3 Tregunter Road, S.W.10. Proposed by Thomas E. Colclutt, Merwyn E. Macarney and Robert Atkinson.
- ROBINSON: ERIC ORME [*Special War Examination*], 45 Mornington Street, Keighley, Yorks. Proposed by William H. Thorp, W. Carby Hall and Sydney D. Kitson.
- ROUTLEY: LEONARD JAMES [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 10 Irene Road, Parson's Green, S.W.6. Proposed by F. W. Roberts, W. Lister Newcombe and Robert Atkinson.
- ST. LEGER: CHARLES DOUGLAS, M.C. [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 5 Lansdowne Crescent, W.11. Proposed by Herbert Baker, Robert Atkinson and G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.
- SCOTT: THOMAS EDWARD [*Special War Examination*], 92 Meeting House Lane, S.E.15. Proposed by the Council.
- SHAW: ROBERT PHILIP [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 26 North Bridge Street, Bathgate, Linlithgowshire. Proposed by John Watson, John Wilson and James C. Wynnes.
- SHEARER: THOMAS SMITH [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], 75 Limerston Street, Chelsea, S.W. Proposed by Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Maurice E. Webb and J. Ernest Franck.
- SHERWIN: CECIL THOMAS [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], West House, Drury Lane, Wakefield. Proposed by John Stuart and the Council.
- SWALLOW: JOSEPH CEDRIC [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 4 Carlton Chambers, Lower Regent Street, S.W. Proposed by Walter Cave, H. D. Searles-Wood and W. Henry White.

- emption]. Westridge, Sandbanks, Dorset. Proposed by Barry Parker, J. H. Brewerton and Sydney Tugwell.
- SYKES: ALEXANDER RICHARD [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], Low Wood, Lyndhurst, Hants. Proposed by S. D. Adshead, Stanley C. Ramsey and C. Lovett Gill.
- TASKER: EDWARD CLOUGH [Special War Examination], 46 Ramshill Road, Scarborough. Proposed by William H. Thorp, W. Carby Hall and Sydney D. Kitson.
- TEBBUTT: HENRY JEMSON [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 35 Fordhook Avenue, Ealing, W.5. Proposed by Arthur J. Davis, Robert Atkinson and Clyde Young.
- TEMPEST: FREDERICK WILLIAM [Special War Examination], 45 Woodhouse Road, Minsfield, Notts. Proposed by Sir Bamister Fletcher, Albert Nelson Bromley and H. Garnham Watkins.
- THIRTLE: TOM OWEN [Special War Examination], 35 Sheepcote Road, Harrow. Proposed by A. E. Richardson, Edw. T. Boardman and Alfred Cox.
- THOMPSON: GEORGE RICHARD, M.C. [S., 1915—*Special War Exemption*], 61 Hunter Street, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by Edmund Wimperis, W. B. Simpson and Charles J. Blomfield.
- TOOTHILL: JOHN CEDRIC PENMAN [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 2 Park Avenue, Sheffield. Proposed by W. J. Hale, J. Alfred Gotch and Edward M. Gibbs.
- TRAXMER: FRANK [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], Westminster Chambers, Harrogate. Proposed by T. Edw. Marshall, H. S. Chorley and Sydney D. Kitson.
- VEPNON: FREDERICK AUSTIN [Special War Examination], 5 Duncan Terrace, Islington, N.1. Proposed by Horace Field, W. Alexander Harvey and Michael Bunney.
- WARDILL: REGINALD WILLIAM [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 72 Greenvale Road, Eltham, S.E.9. Proposed by Wykeham Chancellor, J. S. Alder and Alfred Cox.
- WATERHOUSE: MICHAEL THEODORE, M.C. [Special War Examination], Staple Inn Buildings, Holborn, W.C. Proposed by Paul Waterhouse, John W. Simpson and Thos. E. Collett.
- WATT: JOHN DESBOROUGH [S., 1912—*Special War Exemption*], 15 Lancaster Park, Richmond, Surrey. Proposed by Reginald H. Spalding, Ernest G. Theakston and the Council.
- WHIMSTER: HENRY NEIL [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Woodville, Helensburgh. Proposed by W. Hunter McNab, John Keppie and John Watson.
- WHITE: PERCY GORDON [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Caerlaverock, Bickley Road, Bickley, Kent. Proposed by G. Topham Forrest, F. T. W. Goldsmith and W. E. Riley.
- WILLIAMS: WILLIAM JOHN VATCHAN, M.C. [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 3 Brunswick Terrace, Weymouth. Proposed by the Council.
- WILLIAMSON: FREDERICK [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], Lynton House, Rushford Avenue, Levenshulme, Manchester. Proposed by C. H. Reilly, S. D. Adshead and the Council.
- WILSON: ARTHUR [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], Beech House, St. Bees, Cumberland. Proposed by C. H. Reilly, S. D. Adshead and the Council.
- WILSON: ROBERT, JR. [S., 1914—*Special War Exemption*], Almalea, Falkirk, Stirlingshire. Proposed by James Miller, John Watson and John Keppie.
- WINDER: ARTHUR MAYALL [S., 1911—*Special War Exemption*], 254 Waterloo Street, Oldham. Proposed by the Council.
- WOOD: JAMES [S., 1913—*Special War Exemption*], 3 Strathaven Terrace, Oban, Argyllshire. Proposed by Jas. C. Wynnes, Jno. Watson and W. T. Oldrieve.

WOOD: ORMOND PHILIP [S., 1916—*Special War Exemption*], Brundah, Carabella Street, Nelson's Point, Sydney, N.S.W. Proposed by John Sulman, Harry C. Kent and the Council.

WYATT: PHILIP HEMPHRY, O.B.E. [S., 1910—*Special War Exemption*], 40 Hunter Street, W.C.1. Proposed by Ernest Newton, R.A., Arthur Keen and Halsey Ricardo.

WYLIE: EDWARD GRIGG, M.C., Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Roumania [S., 1920—*Special War Exemption*], 212 Bath Street, Glasgow. Proposed by Sir John J. Burnet, John Keppie and Thomas L. Taylor.

YOUNG: JAMES REID [Special War Examination], 12 Scottish Provident Buildings, Belfast. Proposed by Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Maurice E. Webb and Paul Waterhouse.

### Special and Business Meetings, 7th June.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING will be held Monday, 7th June, 1920, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held 10th May.

To confirm, in accordance with Clause 33 of the Charter, the resolution passed at the Special General Meeting of the 10th May—viz.:

That, in order to provide funds to meet the increase in expenditure due to the general advance in prices, an addition of one guinea be made to all entrance fees and subscriptions of Members and contributions of Licentiates; and that the necessary steps be taken to obtain the sanction of the Privy Council to such revision of By-law 17 as is required to give effect to this resolution.

The FIFTEENTH GENERAL MEETING (Business) of the Session 1919-20 will be held immediately following the above Meeting, for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the General Meeting (Ordinary) held Monday, 17th May, 1920;

To proceed with the election of members [see list of candidates on preceding pages];

To read the reports of the Scrutineers appointed to examine the voting papers for the election of the Council and Standing Committees for the Session 1920-21.

### Peace Day Celebrations.

Members of the Institute (Hon. Members, Fellows, Associates, Licentiates, and Students) and their Ladies are invited to the Reception and Garden Party in honour of returned Service men, to be held by the President and Council at the Zoological Gardens on Tuesday, 29th June. Application for tickets, specifying whether ladies' tickets are also required, should be made to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., as soon as possible.

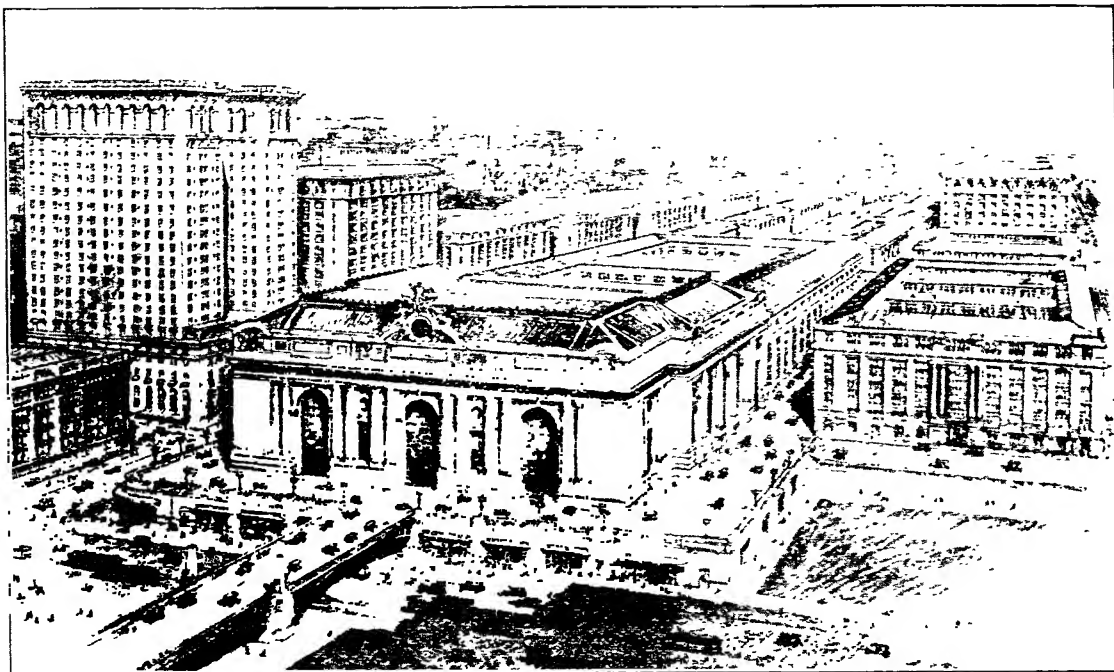
Disembodied Officer just returned from the East, with long experience as sanitary expert and advisory, would be glad to act as or opening to work with architect—Apply F. J. A. C. to Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.

Vacancy for an ARTICLED PUPIL, must be a Public School boy and be prepared to study for membership R.I.B.A. Premium repayable in salary—Box 277, The Secretary, R.I.B.A.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, with experience of Railway work, wanted in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Great North and Rhododendron Railway Company.—Apply at the Company's Office, 2, London Wall, E.C.

WANTED: One fully experienced Assistant, two good Assistants, and a Junior—Box 277, The Secretary, R.I.B.A.

ARCHITECT, R.I.B.A., would like to share office with another architect. Very busy, and opening branch in country. Would like to arrange sharing of expenses. Want London address, as will be away a great deal. Address The Secretary, R.I.B.A.



"THE TERMINAL CITY" (GRAND CENTRAL STATION), NEW YORK. (From a Drawing by Vernon Howe Bailey.)

## THE TWO GREAT RAILWAY STATIONS OF NEW YORK.

By BEN J. LUBSCHEZ, Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 17th May 1920.

THE impressive entrance to New York in which Nature took so large a part—the bay and harbour, the colossal Statue of Liberty, then the unique sky-line of towering buildings with the opalescent haze of morning or the myriad twinkling lights of fairyland at night—many of you may know few things in our country have impressed visitors from the other side of the Atlantic as has this first glimpse of our shore. It is all something bigger than man-made. But this water gate is, after all, something more important than the entrance to New York: it is one of the principal entrances to the country. Quite as important, although entirely provided by man, are the great vestibules to New York, where millions come from all over the country every year, its two great railroad stations, the Pennsylvania and Grand Central terminals. The minor stations and the Hudson Terminal may be omitted from consideration, the minor stations being of little importance and the Hudson Terminal being subsidiary to and merely providing down-town connections for the Pennsylvania Station—its importance as a commuting station and as the terminal of the Hudson Tubes being entirely outside of our consideration.

It is rather difficult to evaluate the comparative merits of these two buildings: they both serve their purpose well and yet are so different. They will be considered here on a comparative basis and also as the two grand units in the group which is the double portal and vestibule of New York. Neither unit is more important than the other in this group.

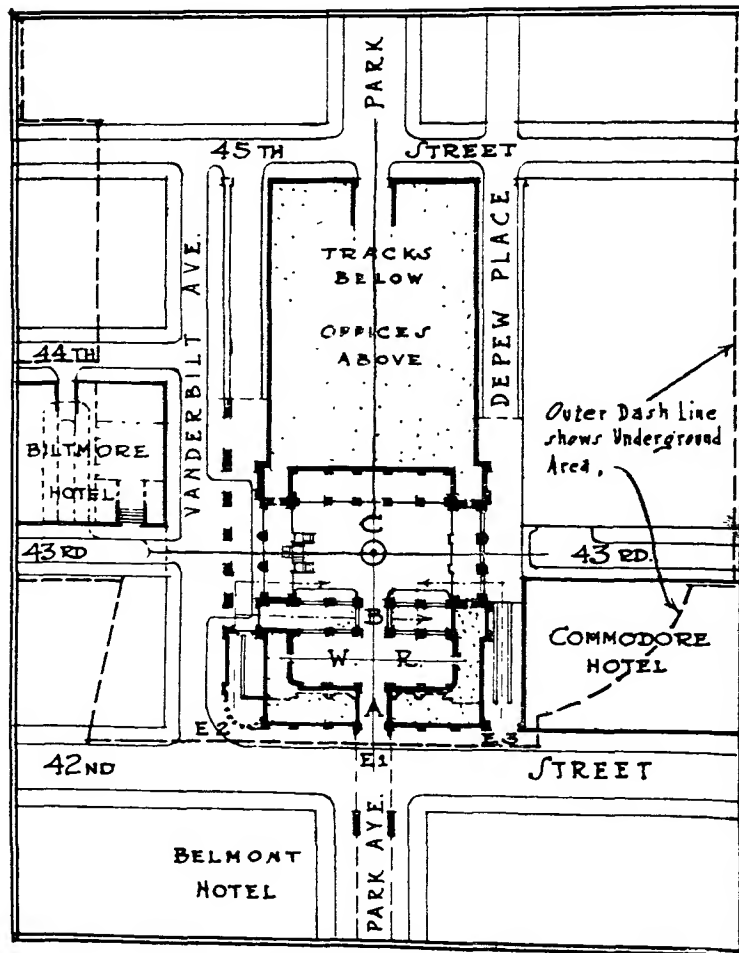
Before beginning the analysis of the two buildings it may be well to repeat a statement from the more general paper on Railway Terminals of a year ago: "The function of a railroad station or terminal is above all to provide in convenient and proper manner a connecting link between the service of the railroad and the public who use that service. Every requirement of plan must fundamentally be based on the idea of making it easier, safer, and pleasanter for the traveller to avail himself of the facilities of the lines of transportation" [JOURNAL R.I.B.A., Oct. 1919].

Of course, æsthetic requirements go further than this. No station, however, can be good architecturally, no matter how beautiful its design may be, if it does not follow this fundamental. That it must also be impressive and beautiful goes without saying, for we must remember that it is in the station that the stranger gets his first impression of hospitality and his last lingering impression on leaving. Beauty is essential in forming these impressions properly, but convenience and comfort will go far in making us receptive to this message of Beauty.

The first superficial analysis of the two stations reveals the Grand Central as a *tour-de-force* in the Modern French School: clever, brilliant planning, of great efficiency, but extremely complex and barely understandable without the most careful and painstaking scrutiny and study. The Pennsylvania, on

the other hand, is a great Roman structure, big, monumental, dignified and with a *parti* so simple and clean-cut that it reveals itself at a glance.

The Grand Central is an actual terminal for all trains entering it, and is on two general levels, the principal level being mostly for the transcontinental and other long-distance lines, and the lower level used mostly for suburban short-distance lines or commuting service. To grasp the plan it is necessary to examine the simplified analytical diagram. The terminal and office building fronts on Forty-second Street, runs back to Forty-fifth Street on the north, and lies between Vanderbilt Avenue on the left or west, and Depew Place on the right or east. The building apparently stands on a great terrace, the top of which is a promenade. Directly in the centre of the Forty-second Street front is the Park Avenue viaduct connecting with the promenade, which in turn carries Park Avenue traffic around the sides of the station by way of Vanderbilt Avenue and



GRAND CENTRAL STATION, NEW YORK PLAN

Depew Place, and meeting the level of Forty-fifth Street at the rear. Depew Place is, for the present, merely a private street and is not open to general traffic. It separates the Commodore Hotel from the station. Under this promenade, on the street level, are shops, the main entrances, and the cab entrances.

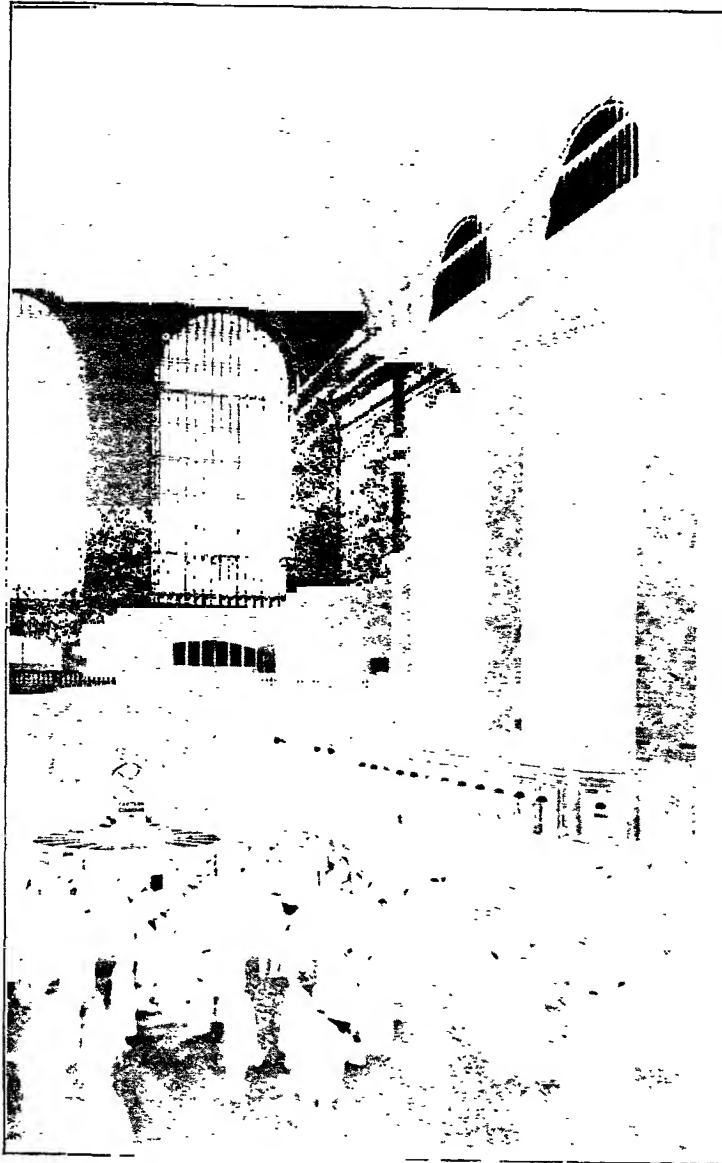
The main building above the terrace is 300 feet by 688 feet, below the street level the building area is 455 feet by 745 feet. The main front is on Forty-second Street, and the main entrance, as shown on the plan diagram, is in the centre of the terrace on this street, at E1, under the Park Avenue viaduct, with shop fronts on each side. This entrance opens into a vestibule or rather short corridor, A, whose

floor slopes downward towards the general waiting room, WR. Opposite the entrance to the waiting room is a large opening on to a bridge, B, leading into the Grand Concourse, C. Under this bridge runs a double ramp connecting the other front entrances, E2 and E3, at the ends of the Forty-second Street front of the terrace, with the lower level of the station. At the north side of the concourse, opposite the bridge entrance, are the train gates leading directly to the tracks. At the south side of the concourse and each side of the entrance to it are ranges of ticket booths. In the centre of the room is a large circular information desk. At the left end of the concourse are steps, the only ones of importance in the station, leading to a wide gallery opening on the cab concourse off of Vanderbilt Avenue and on the axis of Forty-third Street. Under a similar gallery at the right end of the concourse are luggage checking rooms, telegraph offices, telephone booths, a branch post-office and a passage-way to the Commodore Hotel. Under both galleries are the terminals of ramps leading from the entrances at E2 and E3 and connections to the double ramp under the bridge, B, leading to the lower level.

The main concourse is 120 feet wide, 272 feet long and 125 feet high. It is the keynote of the whole plan and, as we shall see, it functions as such, practically every outgoing and incoming passenger—except some of those using the suburban service on the lower level, and whether reaching or leaving the station by cab, subway, surface car or on foot—being compelled to pass through the concourse as a matter of convenience and direct connection with all parts of the terminal.

The waiting-room, WR, is somewhat smaller and lower than the concourse. It is divided for men and women merely by a wide central aisle. On the right at the east end are the women's retiring and comfort rooms; on the left or west end are the men's smoking and comfort rooms.

The two great rooms are finished in Botticini marble, terra-cotta, and artificial stone to harmonise with the marble in colour. The ceiling of the concourse is an elliptical barrel vault, sky-blue in colour,

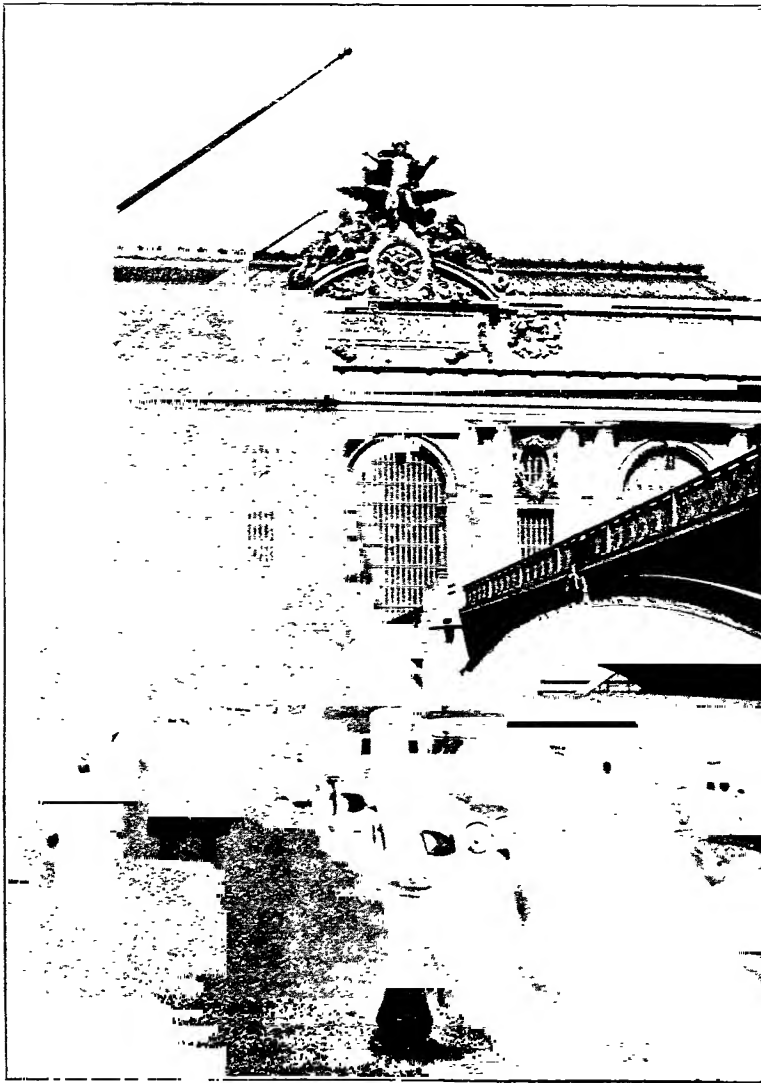


GRAND CENTRAL STATION, NEW YORK GRAND CONCOURSE



with the constellations, the signs of the Zodiac, and part of the Milky Way painted on it in gold. The ceiling of the waiting-room is flat and divided into five great panels by ornamental cornices.

The double ramp which connects with the entrances at E2 and E3 leads under the bridge, B, to the suburban concourse directly under and exactly similar in plan to the main concourse, on one side, and on the other side to the general restaurant which is under the waiting room. These rooms, although similar in size and plan to those directly above them, are much lower. The restaurant is quite different in character from the other rooms, being entirely arched and vaulted in tile.



GRAND CENTRAL STATION FROM ALONGSIDE PARK AVENUE VIADUCT

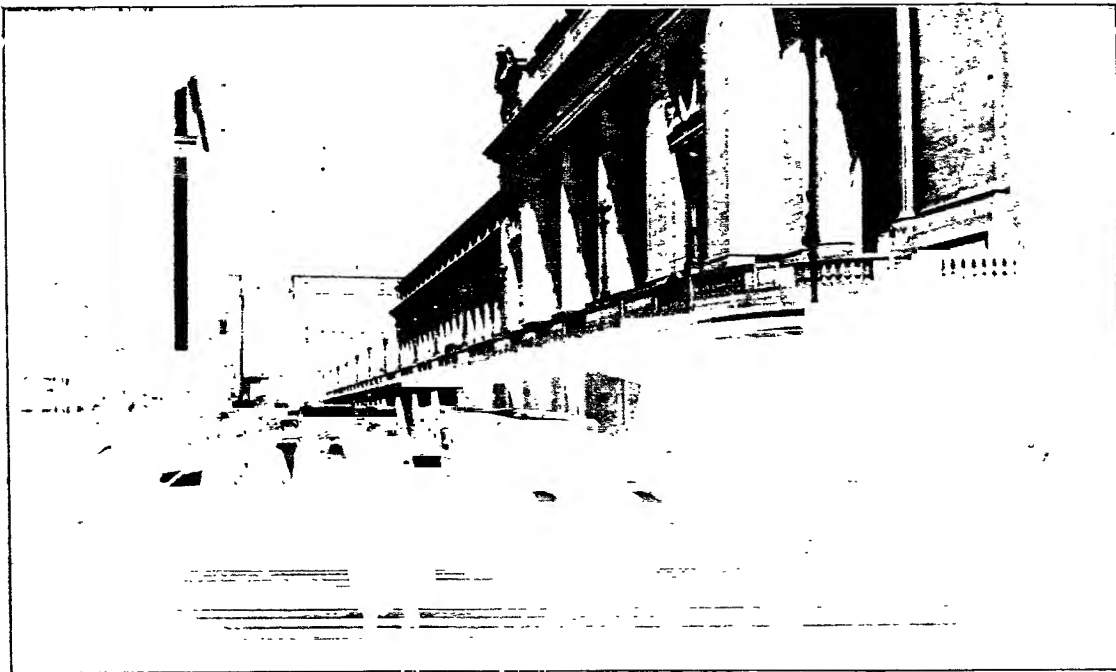
On the level of the Grand Concourse floor and directly connected with it, but—on account of the street grades—lying under Forty-third Street and partly in the basement of the Biltmore Hotel, are an extension of the train gates with appropriate lobby, all used only for incoming trains and in conjunction with the main station, and an elaborate underground cab concourse connected with the street level by ramp to Forty-fourth Street.

Even after considerable acquaintance, one is apt to lose his way in the lower level of the Grand Central Station. There are direct underground connections with the Commodore Hotel on the east and the Biltmore Hotel on the west; indirect connections to two other hotels. There are direct connections to three subway traffic systems on two different levels. These passageways, some quite wide and long, are in many parts lined with all kinds of shops, parcel booths, telegraph and telephone booths. Baggage, express shipments (freight on passenger schedules), and mail are handled through a series of passageways leading from Forty-fifth Street and from Depew Place, as also from Vanderbilt Avenue,

to rooms over the track levels in the lower part of the rear office building and conducted to the track levels by many lifts. Adjacent to this little underground city are the seventy acres of underground track yards with thirty-two miles of track. Above the tracks are the office building part of the terminal, streets, and building sites, many of them already used. When this comprehensive group improvement is completed it will involve twenty city blocks and perhaps pay an adequate return on the \$180,000,000 spent on the terminal, trackage, and *electrification* of the railroads using the terminal, which electrification alone made the whole scheme possible.

At the ends of the waiting room and in the corners of the concourse above the main floor level are several storeys of offices, and circulation between these groups and the main office building in the rear is cleverly established by passageways through the hollow piers and between the outer and inner glazings of the great windows. The window corridors have glass floors and ceilings, and it is quite a sight to see people passing through these at different levels rather phantom-like.

The Grand Central Station is difficult to photograph both inside and out. The interiors are large, not brilliantly illuminated, and always filled with rapidly moving people. On the exterior it is surrounded by rather narrow streets and hemmed in by tall buildings. When the building sites over the track yards are all used, many of them are now occupied, the whole group will have the appearance shown in Mr. Vernon Bailey's drawing [p. 369]. The vacant plot in the lower right-hand corner of this drawing is already occupied by the twenty-two storey Commodore Hotel. Three other interesting



SIDE OF GRAND CENTRAL STATION, LOOKING UP VANDERBILT AVENUE.

views are shown\*: one looking towards the central feature of the front from alongside the Park Avenue viaduct, one looking down the Vanderbilt Avenue side, and one showing the front against the Commodore Hotel as a background and well illustrating the great difference in scale between the station and an ordinary building. From these the general character of the design may be seen. The base or wall of the terrace is of pink granite; the rest of the building is in Bedford limestone. The scale is tremendous. The great arched windows are 33 feet wide and 60 feet high. The arm of the figure of Mercury surmounting the clock is 12 feet long. This large clock group emphasises the central feature of the building front but at the same time dwarfs its other dimensions so that it is difficult to grasp the scale. The design is grandiose and modern and its triumphal arch *motif* suggests the great gateway. In a measure the exterior expresses the chief features of the plan, and altogether the Grand Central Terminal must be considered one of the great modern buildings. Warren & Wetmore, with Reed & Stem, were the architects, the former being usually credited with the design, while the latter are credited with the planning.

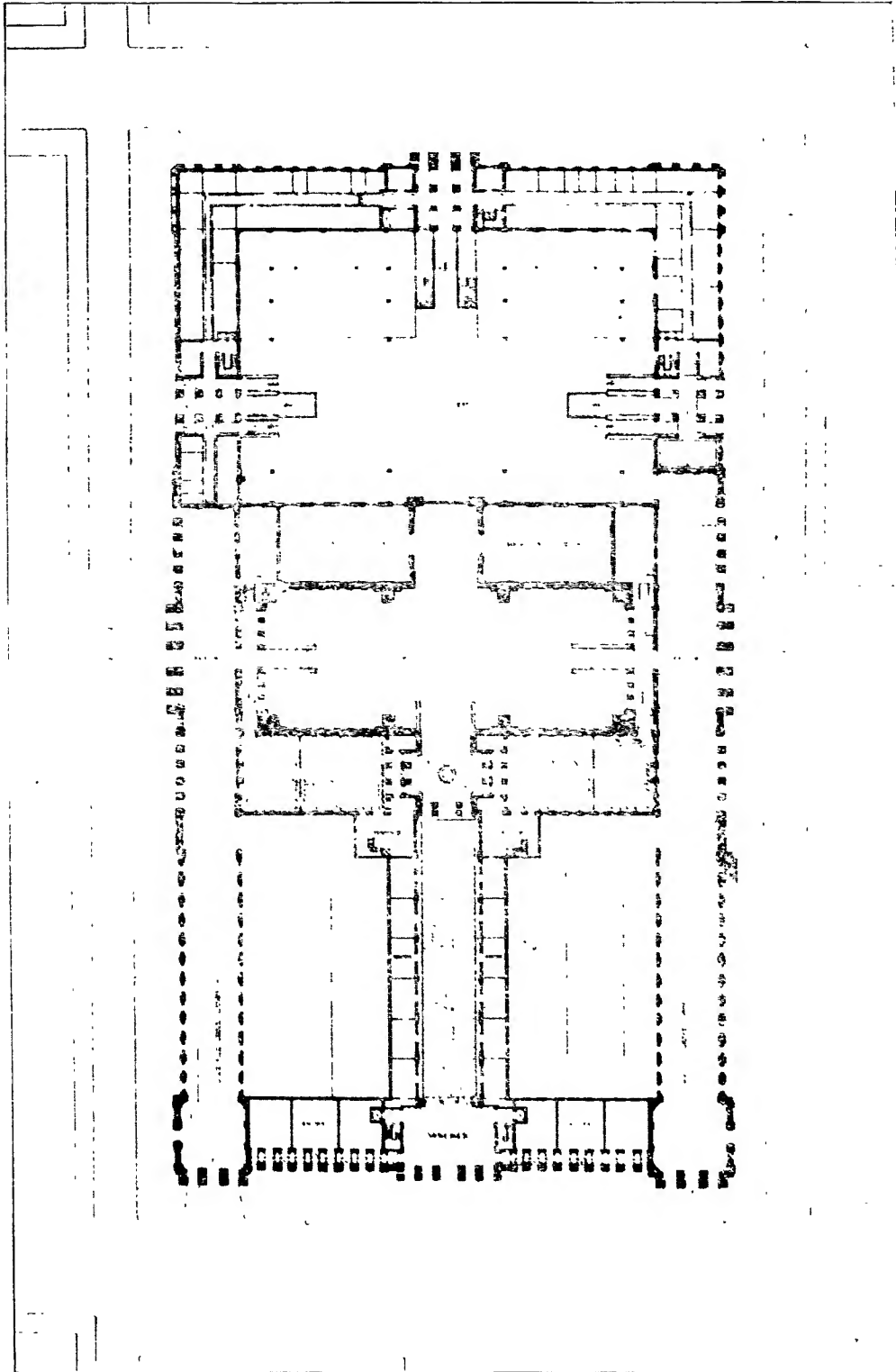
\* It has been possible to reproduce in these pages a selection only of the lantern illustrations shown at the meeting.—ED

The Pennsylvania Station was designed by McKim, Mead & White, architects, and is one of the last great works to show Mr. McKim's influence to a large extent. It occupies a plot of ground 455 feet by 800 feet in size between Thirty-first Street and Thirty-third Street, and between Seventh and Eighth Avenues. The principal front is 455 feet long and faces Seventh Avenue. The principal entrance in the centre of this front is on the axis of Thirty-second Street. Each side of the main entrance are colonnades screening offices and shops, and at the ends of these colonnades, at the corners of Thirty-first and Thirty-third Streets, are the cab entrances. In the centre of both the Thirty-first and Thirty-third Street sides are important entrances by bridges over the cab entrance roadways, while in the centre of the rear halves of the long side façades and in the centre of the Eighth Avenue façade are other entrances leading directly into the train concourse. The plan is well composed and balanced; it looks extremely well as a design on paper, an important test in a monumental plan.

The main entrance in Seventh Avenue opens into a great vestibule off of which are minor entrances to the subway station, suburban train concourse, and to the shops and offices of the Seventh Avenue front. Directly opposite the main entrance is the entrance into a stately arcade, both sides of which are lined with shops. At the end of this arcade is another great vestibule. Off the sides of this vestibule are the restaurant and the lunch room with appropriate entrances. On the axis of the arcade and the whole width of the vestibule is a great archway over a broad flight of steps leading down into the main waiting room, probably the finest roofed-over space in this country. This room is about 100 feet by 300 feet in size and 150 feet high. Like the arcade the room is finished in Travertine marble. A great deal of this is artificial, but a perfect match in colour and surface to the genuine stone. This vast room is beautifully lighted by eight large, arched clerestory windows. Below six of these windows are the panels containing the map decoration by Mr. Jules Guerin. The whole design, adapted from the Baths of Caracalla, possesses that grandeur which one's imagination attributes to its prototype. The soft tones of the Travertine marble, the pastel-like colours of the Guerin panels, the great sun-rays filtering through the high windows midst the vaulting, the magnificent scale of it all, produce an effect of impressive welcome to the stranger and of worth-while cherished memory for the departing visitor. This most important room, the centre and heart of the whole architectural scheme, although called general waiting room, is not a waiting room at all but rather a great common room or lobby, a real vestibule to the city. At the side opposite the arcade entrance is another wide archway leading to the train concourse. At either end are flights of steps leading up to the vestibules and entrances from Thirty-first and Thirty-third Streets, for it must be remembered that the floor level of this room is considerably below the surrounding street levels. The Thirty-third Street entrance is opposite a private street leading to Thirty-fourth Street, a wide and important cross-town traffic way. Underneath this private street is a tunnel leading to the lower levels of the station, with stairs and escalators to the street level. On the long sides of this room, on both sides of the great archways leading from the arcade and to the train concourse are four ranges of booths for tickets, telegraph offices, and telephones. There are various entrances to the adjoining subway station and to the baggage rooms, which occupy most of the space under the restaurants and arcade.

At the sides of the arched passageway to the train concourse are two real waiting rooms comparatively small in size, although they are each about 60 feet by 100 feet. At the end of each waiting room are appropriate comfort and rest rooms.

The arched passageway between the waiting rooms leads from the magnificent so-called general waiting room to the train concourse. This concourse is a vast space about 200 feet by 300 feet in size, and is roofed over by exposed steel arches on steel columns likewise exposed, the spaces between arches being glazed. In this concourse are the various train gates leading to flights of stairs and elevators to the train level below. Between the train level and the concourse floor level is a mezzanine, which connects with the suburban train waiting room under the general waiting room, with the subway stations, with the sub-surface entrance from Thirty-fourth Street, and with sub-surface entrance to the



PENNSYLVANIA STATION: PRINCIPAL PLAN.

new Pennsylvania Hotel opposite the station in Seventh Avenue. In the concourse are also the news-stands, and, quite recently moved from the general waiting room, the parcel receiving and delivery room. This parcel room is connected by adequate endless belt type carriers to the baggage room below, and is really much more conveniently located nearer the train gates than was the original parcel room. At the sides and back of the concourse are flights of stairs leading up to vestibules and entrances from Thirty-first and Thirty-third Streets and from Eighth Avenue.

The walls of the concourse are in masonry, granite like the exterior, and some brick facing. The steel work is well designed and of graceful lines. The frank revelation of structure is noteworthy, but the transition from masonry to steel where these materials come in juxtaposition at the walls is often awkward.

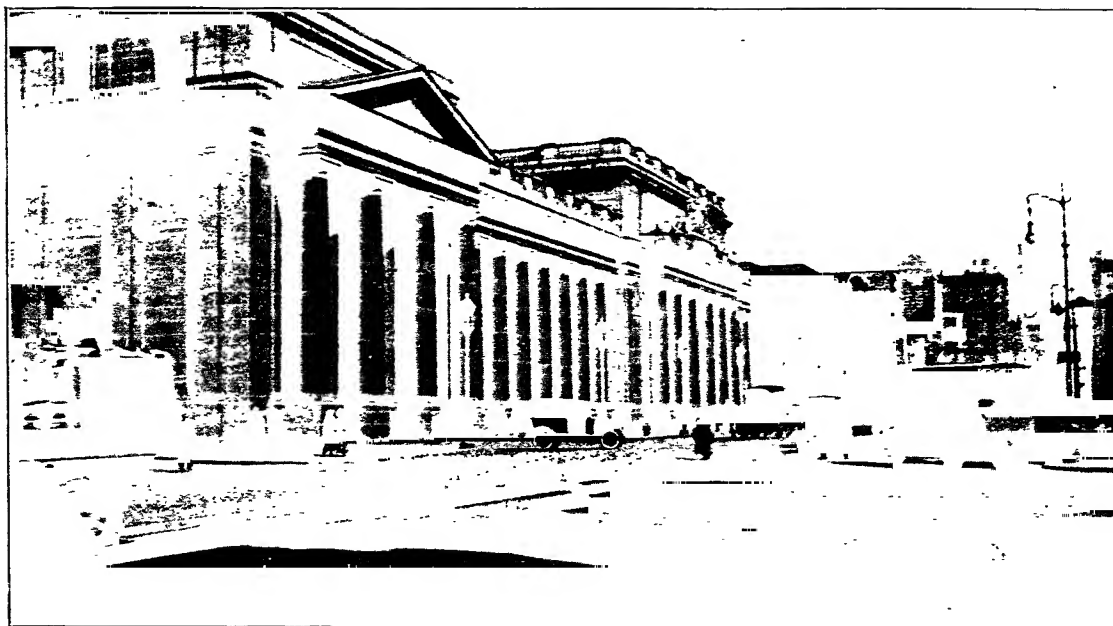
The suburban train concourse and waiting room are simply so much space, there is no attempt to impart architectural character, which is so obvious in other parts of this building. Of course, this part of the station is used almost entirely by New Yorkers. It is another case of putting on our best for strangers and considering anything good enough for the home folks.

The two cab entrances at the ends of the Seventh Avenue façade open into inclined roadways which, by the time they reach the centre of the long façades, are on the concourse floor level and general waiting room floor level and connect directly with these rooms, as well as with a system of underground passageways used for the handling of luggage, or baggage as we call it here. The Thirty-third Street cab entrance and roadway is used for outgoing passengers and the Thirty-first street roadway for incoming passengers.

The Pennsylvania Station is a combination, or both terminal and way, station. The trans-continental trains stop and the lines terminate at this station. The Washington-to-Boston trains run through, while the numerous Long Island suburban trains run in the opposite direction as the trans-continental lines, thus the tracks underneath the station do not terminate there but run through and in both directions from it. For many miles either side of the station the trains are electrified. Trains from the West change from steam to electric power at Manhattan Transfer, some ten or twelve miles from the station, in New Jersey. They enter the Pennsylvania Tubes under the Hudson on the New Jersey side and proceed underground to the station. Long Island trains proceed from the station underground to the New York shore of the East River, where they emerge and cross this river by bridge into Long Island City.

The exterior of the building is of pink granite. The design expresses the plan with reasonable clearness. Its outstanding feature is the vigorous Roman order used, almost Tuscan in character, although it approaches closely the Doric. The upper part of the general waiting room with the great arched clerestory windows is an outstanding feature of the composition. Character, with the utmost simplicity and dignity and strength, is the distinguishing quality of the design which has caused considerable controversy as to its appropriateness for a railroad station.

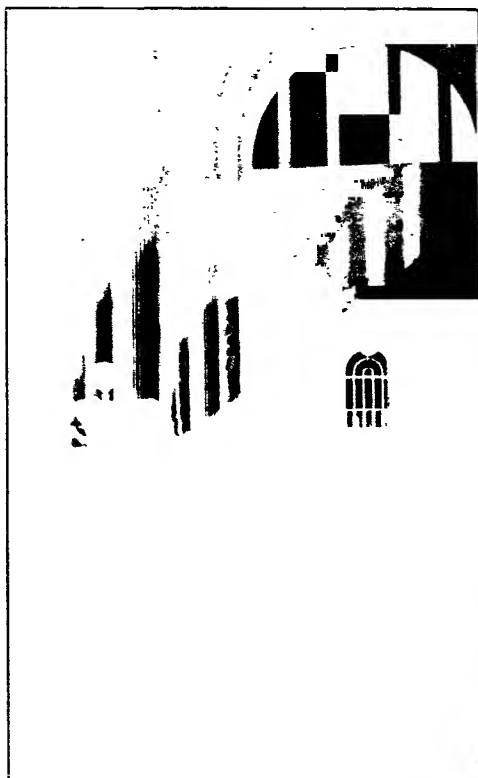
The Pennsylvania Station is planned and designed with the view of gaining architectural effect, and it succeeds admirably in this respect. One cannot help but feel, however, that if the travellers' convenience and comfort had been considered in combination with this effect the greatest building of modern times might have resulted. The magnificent plan, as we have gone through it and analysed it, is one of long distances and many flights of stairs; the result has been that with time travellers have discovered the minor entrances and short-cut passages, which are numerous and which get them to and from trains more quickly, more conveniently and with fewer steps than the prescribed line of circulation indicated by the plan. For instance, passengers reaching the station by cab or by subway or from Thirty-fourth Street usually reach their trains, unless they must buy a ticket, by several uninteresting subsurface passages, and the magnificent general waiting room fails in its function: it cannot impart its glorious architectural impression to a traveller who does not come within the range of its spell, because he saves time and energy by taking another path.



SEVENTH AVENUE FAÇADE.



ENTRANCE ARCADE

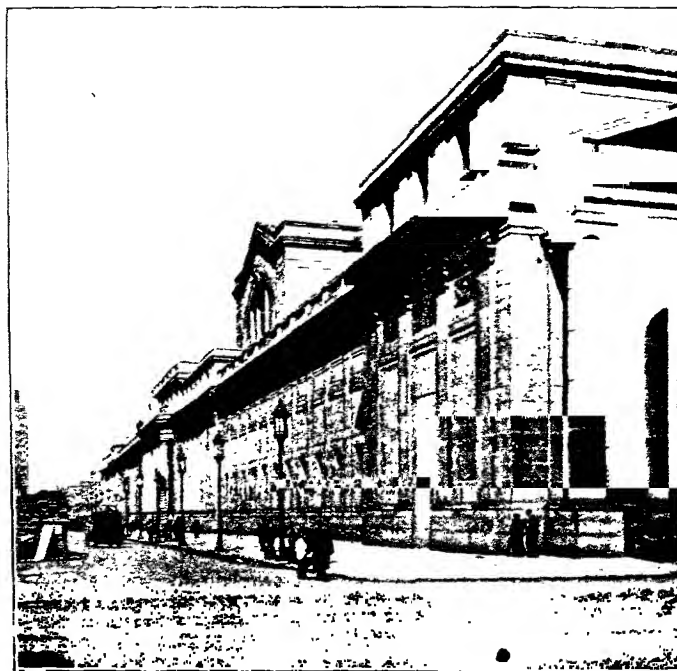


GENERAL WAITING ROOM.

PENNSYLVANIA STATION, NEW YORK.

A controversy once arose as to the comparative merits of two contemporary poets, and a critic came and inquired as to the sense and reason of the argument. "Why not be thankful we have them both?" said he. We in New York, I think, are thankful that we have both these magnificent stations, and there is little reason for argument as to their comparative merits, yet one is tempted to make this comparison.

The two stations are about a mile apart, between them lie the retail shopping district, the hotel and theatre districts of the city. The immediate environment of the Grand Central Station is far superior to that of the Pennsylvania : its close proximity to Fifth Avenue helps it much. From the standpoint of pure design, the Pennsylvania Station is part for part and as a whole incomparably the better of the two. From the standpoint of ingenious solution of a tremendous problem the Grand Central is easily the better. As a convenient "connecting link between the service of the railroads and the public who use that service," the Grand Central Station is again superior. Considering circulation alone : in the Grand Central it is compact and easy : despite its various levels there are practically no steps nor stairs, connections are all made by ramps of easy gradient. In the Pennsylvania Station, the lines of circulation are long and there are many flights of steps, some of them merely to gain interesting architectural effect. Yet we should not think that in the Grand Central architectural effect has been sacrificed for utility or convenience. The Grand Central *might* have been as superb in design as the Pennsylvania, the difference is due to the difference in temperament of the designers. As a splendid, dignified, scholarly, aristocratic solution of a vast architectural problem, the Pennsylvania Station is memorably impressive. As a highly ingenious, almost pyrotechnical, brilliantly useful solution of an extremely complex problem, the Grand Central Station is equally impressive.



PENNSYLVANIA STATION : 31ST STREET FACADE.



## DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING PAPER.

Mr. WALTER CAVE, *Vice-President*, in the Chair.

THE CHAIRMAN, prior to the reading of the Paper, reminded the Meeting that Mr. Lubschez had favoured the Institute last Session with a Paper on the Railway Terminal Station of the United States. The Paper about to be read was contributed by Mr. Lubschez in response to the Council's request for a Paper giving details of the plan and construction of one or two of the great railway stations of New York. He had also specially prepared a series of illustrations to be shown by lantern. The Council much regretted that Mr. Lubschez was unable to be with them to deliver the Paper in person. The CHAIRMAN then asked the Hon. Secretary to read the Paper and show the slides.

Professor S. D. ADSHEAD, *Vice-President*, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Lubschez, said he had had the opportunity of seeing the two stations about the time of their completion, and could endorse all that had been said with regard to their magnificence. It had been a controversial question with American architects as to whether the application of an ancient motif, like that of the Baths of Caracalla, to a modern problem was legitimate. He remembered discussing the matter at New York with several enthusiasts, and concluded that the unanimous opinion of American architects was that the Pennsylvania Station in that respect was not altogether a success. Personally, he was strongly in favour of sacrificing a certain amount of what some people called "utility," in order to create an impression. There was no doubt that the Pennsylvania station was a most impressive building. Its scale was magnificent, and it was in every essential a much simpler building than the Grand Central. The station had a great advantage over stations recently constructed in this country; it had a magnificent and symmetrical site and a grand approach, for those who had not visited New York did not realise the great width and grand scale of its avenues. English stations all suffered from the lack of a magnificent approach. Probably one of the most interesting and successful features of the Pennsylvania station was the concourse, which is constructed of steel, but steel not applied, he thought, with the view to producing the greatest span with the employment of the minimum of material, but a very beautiful building in steel—a study in filigree work in that material. He should like to see engineers in this country use steel more architecturally, as it had been used in America. The example of steel construction at Pennsylvania station, by one of the greatest architects, was one that they might very well follow. The Grand Central was a very complex station—comparing it architecturally with the Pennsylvania station, it might be described as a veritable *tour de force*. It was essentially modern, and in that sense, even though it

had not the traditional qualities of the Pennsylvania station, perhaps architecturally better. Personally, he had never been quite satisfied as to the necessity of raising it one storey above the street level; it had led to great complications with regard to the approach. The bridge crossing 45th Street was an unquestionable obstruction.

Mr. W. R. DAVIDGE [A.] seconded the vote of thanks. They were always interested, he said, in the works of American architects, and were particularly interested in those modern structures in which the engineer and the architect had collaborated. New York was peculiar among the large cities of the world in having practically only two principal railway termini. But the geographical situation presented considerable difficulties in both those stations. Previous to the introduction of the Pennsylvania Railroad station most of the traffic was by means of ferry. With the introduction of the Hudson River tunnels, a new cross-country track was opened, which made it possible for New York to spread east and west, as well as northward—as it had been doing for many years. The Pennsylvania Railroad station was a modern station put over what was really a very deep-level Tub railway. The fact that the railway had to be at that level, having just emerged from the Hudson tunnel, created the great difficulties with regard to the levels; and their sympathies should be with the architect who had to deal with a difficult problem and had evolved a masterly work of art. As the author pointed out, practically the whole of his efforts had been concentrated on the great central concourse. But, as one who had used that concourse, he must say that when he had descended by the gates and the ways to the comparatively dark platform, lit, of course, by artificial illumination, the effect was distinctly disappointing. So many platforms had to be got into the space between streets that the platforms were comparatively narrow; there was nothing like the space and generous effect which one experienced at Waterloo, for example. But that was not the fault of the architect; it was due to the circumstances in which he had to evolve his design, and he had done well in making the most of the conditions. But the author touched upon what was a weak point, namely, that the New Yorker himself did not use this elaborate concourse; he used the short-cuts. Another little criticism which appealed to the visitor was that with practically only two important railway stations in New York, there should not be some better communication between the two for those who wanted to get from one to the other, with luggage. It was, however, six years since he was there, and something of the kind may have since been evolved. The Grand

Central station was certainly a very fine work indeed. In fact, in both stations visitors would be impressed with the immense scale and the charming proportions of the buildings. But in regard to both, the architect had been very much limited by his site. In the case of the Pennsylvania station, he had a plot between two or three streets, and much the same was true of the Grand Central. It was not so easy for the architect who had to squeeze a certain amount of accommodation between definite highways, as it was for the architect of Waterloo or similar stations, where there was space for a lateral spread. In the case of New York it was forced upon the architect to get his space on two different levels, or else to go to the expense of spreading out laterally and displacing an additional city block. Even one extra track meant a considerable area of land, and the way in which the difficulties of the viaduct and the continuation of Park Avenue had been got over was masterly. As architects, they must pay their tribute of appreciation to their American brethren who had met these difficulties and had given them something which should be an instruction to them in the comparatively easier problems which confronted us in this country.

Mr. WM. WOODWARD [F.] said he joined heartily in the vote of thanks. Both Paper and slides had been extremely interesting. The term "monumental" had been frequently used by the author, and they would agree that the term was never better applied than to the buildings they had seen depicted. There was a certain hotel in Victoria Street about which it had been said—and he thought with truth—that there was a mistake in the scale, which accounted for the enormous size of the details of the building. With regard to the dimensions of the Central Station, New York, some of the entrances and vestibules were only 50 feet higher than the extremity of the vault of Westminster Abbey. His mind was carried back to that delightful little classic station, Euston, and to that fine home of simplicity, the Great Northern Station at King's Cross; and in comparison with these he agreed that 120 feet in height deserved the term "monumental." He had no doubt the levels had been a matter of extreme difficulty for the architect; but a railway station with the dimensions described he regarded as unnecessary and a blot on the city. One feature he admired immensely—the arrangement whereby the passenger was enabled to pass gently from the footway into the motor-car.

Mr. A. E. BARTLETT [F.] said that there was one point in the Paper which attracted his notice, viz., the statement that Charles McKim based his design for the Pennsylvania station on the Baths of Caracalla. He had heard from a pupil of McKim's that it was McKim's practice, when he had a big job to do, to wander about Italy or France until he hit upon some building which seemed to him to contain the germ of an idea on which he might work for his big scheme. McKim's work, he thought, stood out almost more

prominently than that of any other architect of the last century. When he was in the States it was always a pleasure to him to look at anything designed by McKim; and seeing that he adopted this practice of seeking among old work an inspiration for new work, it was a practice that any of them might follow when commissioned to do some big job. Mention had been made of the immense scale of these stations. But it should be remembered that these stations serve the railways not of a small island, but of an immense continent, with a population of 80 to 90 millions, and we should expect the stations to be proportionately bigger than ours.

THE CHAIRMAN in putting the vote said that he had seen the two stations himself, and could bear out what had been said about their architecture. He agreed with Mr. Davidge about the side entrances at the Pennsylvania station. He had a recollection of going into that vast hall and finding it practically empty. The New York people avoided crossing the great hall, they used short cuts. It seemed an enormous waste of space. The steel construction in connection with the stone was also a very interesting feature; the steel work was certainly beautiful.

The resolution of thanks was carried by acclamation, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Arthur Keen for reading the Paper and showing the slides.

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## MODERN HOUSING IN ANCIENT ROME.

By S. HURST SEAGER [F.].

ANCIENT Rome! What visions of magnificence and splendour the thought of it calls up. We are carried in imagination far back into the dim and misty past—back to the time when legendary lore is so closely intermingled with historical fact, that it is difficult to distinguish the one from the other: back to the time when the seven hills of Rome were peopled by those warlike tribes who have left evidence of their existence, their mode of life and their memorials of death, deep down beneath the relics of Imperial Rome—the Rome of the Emperors, its palaces, temples, baths—magnificent places of entertainment—triumphal columns and arches all adorned with beautiful sculptures by Grecian artists and their disciples, and the whole linked together by vast colonnades into an architectural creation of unparalleled splendour.

We see, among this splendour, Christianity arising, struggling and conquering, until the head of the Christian Church was there enthroned—enthroned, yet unprotected against the violent onslaught of the Huns and Vandals, and powerless to prevent the partial destruction of the city. Among this chaos we see Rome arising Phoenix-like from its own Pagan ruins, a new Christian Rome, built with the relics of Grecian grace and those of Roman gorgeousness.

Many relics of priceless value lay buried under the debris of destruction, and in imagination we are carried forward to the time when the temporal power and riches of the Popes led to an extravagance of living far apart from the simplicity of the earliest leaders of the Church, to a time when Christianity was professed but Paganism was beloved—when the halo of romance was shed over the old ruins and classical lore, and the unearthed treasures were seized upon to adorn the Papal Palace, the palaces of the nobles, and the museums of the world. These treasures remain for our delight and instruction: they remind us not of any struggle for the welfare of the Roman people as a whole, but of the power, the riches, and the tyranny of the Patrician classes.

There stands to-day, hard by the relics of the past, as magnificent a structure as any that adorned the ancient city—the Victor Emanuele Monument—symbolising the unity of the Italian people: it stands for an ideal: it is the “Nation’s Altar,” a token that in future the welfare of the whole of his people shall be the first care of the Italian king and his ministers.

Rome, through the long course of her history, through all phases of her life, has always risen with power from her apparently overwhelming disasters. It is now on the brink of another great disaster which cannot be met by the power of the sword, but only by giving to its people that right and justice for which its great memorial stands.

Italy’s present trial is the world’s trial; as I write at my hotel window in the centre of this ancient city, there is an ominous hush over the whole of it, reflecting the absolute cessation of activity throughout Italy. Not a train, tram, bus or carriage is running. There is no post and no telegraph. Everything is closed. There is absolutely “nothing doing” for this one day—“Labour Day, the 1st of May.” This cessation of work is not a “Roman holiday”—there is no mirth, no joyousness—it is only a silent, sullen protest by the workers against the conditions of life under which they have to live. The temper of the people is such that the authorities considered it necessary to place hundreds of armed guards in every part of the city.

Here, as elsewhere, it is the housing conditions which make very largely for the prevailing discontent. The Government realise this and are doing what they can to remedy it. The mistaken methods adopted by the Unions prevent the Government from doing what they would, but we have, perhaps, some reason for hope that there will soon be found a way by which contentment and happiness shall run throughout the whole of the body corporate. I realise here, as I realised in England, and expressed in my paper, “The Garden City as an Industrial Unit,” that hope does not lie in the mere building of homes, however convenient and comfortable they may be. The industrial lives of those who occupy them, whether for town or country workers, must be carefully considered and provided for. The provision of homes which are

simply dormitories far away from the work of those who occupy them, and often far away from shopping centres, creates here in Rome a traffic difficulty even more acute than that in London.

The endeavour is simply to provide homes: these are not such as a garden city enthusiast would desire, but they are very far ahead of the homes which the manual worker has had to occupy hitherto. There must of necessity be two types of homes. Those in the Garden Industrial City, situated in the midst of agricultural land, self-contained as far as possible; and homes for the dwellers in the existing cities, dwellers who must perforce remain in the large cities, and who need to be provided for as close to their work as possible. The Industrial Garden City is the ideal all should strive for. The only way in which our great congested cities may themselves become in the far future garden cities is to relieve their congestion by the erection of a ring of industrial towns around them; but these cannot provide for the immediate needs of the great mass of city workers. I am therefore not at one with those who hold that on no account should the worker be asked to live in a tenement building. From my personal experience I can state that a tenement building may be a very delightful place of residence. It depends entirely upon the planning.

In every part of Rome, people of all classes dwell in tenement or apartment houses—houses divided into a series of flats. The sacredness of the home is not violated by reaching it from a staircase landing any more than if the entrance were off the public street. The individual detached home is very rare indeed here, and in carrying out their housing schemes it is not to be wondered at that these schemes are in accord with the traditions of the country. That tradition leads to the arrangement of a series of houses around a garden, just as the old palaces had their rooms round an interior court, or series of courts, which could be, and often were, of great beauty, enriched by trees, shrubs, flowers and statuary. The interior courtyards of some of the new blocks of houses I have visited were well laid out and planted, and some had a central fountain continually playing. The effect was very good indeed, the courtyard forming a veritable oasis among the busy crowded streets around it.

There are two Commissions or Institutes who are carrying out the work of providing better homes for the people. “L’Istituto Romano di Beni Stabili,” a private building society formed, as are the Public Utility Societies of England, for carrying out housing schemes with a limited percentage of profit: the other, the “Istituto per le Case Popolari in Roma.” Both receive municipal support and assistance.

The first, “Beni Stabili,” has devoted its energies chiefly to purchasing and converting houses which were built in 1884-8 as middle-class houses. These, owing to the lack of proper conveniences in planning and equipment, were not occupied by the class for which they were intended, but were crowded by the

working classes, for which they were equally unsuited. This Institute has now no less than three hundred blocks of dwellings under its control. It started by building new blocks of dwellings for the manual workers in order to leave free the existing buildings for alterations. In many cases portions of the blocks were removed so that interior courtyards might be formed: thus providing better light and air. The rooms were rearranged to form convenient sets of apartments, much as is being done by the London Housing Board in the houses built for the middle classes in and around London. But "l'Istituto" has gone much further in that it has established a crèche and kindergarten school in the centre of each block, with bathrooms, and a special garden for the children's use. The control of the kindergarten is under the able direction of Dr. Prof. Maria Montessori. A dispensary is provided, and a doctor attends two hours each day. Children over six years of age go to the public school of the district, but for their use there is in each block a well-equipped school of domestic instruction in charge of capable instructors. A central kitchen was also equipped in the early buildings, but it was found to be "too far from the habits of the people to be readily adopted." An annual prize is offered of one month's rent to the best tenant in each block. The best tenant is considered to be the one who not only keeps her apartment the cleanest, but assists the directors in every way to maintain a proper standard of living, and who assists them in the education of her children. This Institute has also converted existing houses into suitable dwellings for the middle classes, and built several well-planned new blocks having every modern convenience and comfort.

The Istituto per le Case Popolari is an institution corresponding to our "boards." It is set up for the purpose of building homes for the manual workers. They work under an Act giving power to the municipalities throughout Italy to contribute to the funds and to provide land for such buildings. Each municipality is responsible for carrying out the work in its own city. I could not learn that any serious attempt was being made in Naples, but here, as also in Florence and Milan, very earnest and very successful efforts are being made. In Rome the work is under the able direction of the Director Ing. Cav. Uff. Innocenzo Constantini, to whose kindness I am indebted (as well as to the General Director of the "Istituto Romano di Beni Stabili") for complete sets of plans and full information about the work in hand and all proposed schemes. These show that the Institute is in favour, where possible, of separate houses in accord with garden city ideas, and many excellent designs for such homes exist, to be built as in England in blocks of four to six, each having its separate entrance. These designs are excellent in every way, and by judicious arrangement of the necessary features, and the use of varied materials, a very artistic effect is produced. They have nothing to differentiate them from the homes of the well-to-do

except that they have only three or four rooms, most conveniently planned, and often there are spacious piazzas and balconies. These homes are for future development. The first care of the Institute is to provide comfortable homes for the city dwellers, and large blocks of these have been erected in various quarters of the city. The largest scheme is on the Aventine Hill, commanding a beautiful view over the Campagna.

The rents are very moderate. For two rooms and kitchen it is L27 to 30 a month. For three rooms and kitchen, L45; and the monthly income of those who occupy them varies from L250 to L300. Thus, at present, the proportion of rent to income varies from nearly one-sixth to nearly one-ninth. This is the ideal we are striving for.

In the Quartiere Testaccio there are seventeen blocks of buildings, each providing for 123 families. In these blocks there are thirty apartments of one room and kitchen, fifty-three of two rooms and kitchen, and forty of three rooms and kitchen. All the educational and medical services are included in the above rents. The design and general arrangement of these blocks are excellent, and here again there is nothing to distinguish them from the homes of the commercial and other classes. The courtyards are extensive and well laid out and planted. Provision is made for a children's playground on the flat roof, where is also provided a suitable drying-ground. It is not allowed to hang washing from the windows, so that the blocks of dwellings, as also those of the Beni Stabili, are at once distinguished from others by their general tidiness and cleanliness; a marked contrast, indeed, to the majority of the homes of the Italian workers.

An attempt has been made, but only in a half-hearted way, to combine industry with housing, by providing workshops in the basement of the building, and my criticism of an otherwise excellent scheme is that there should be far greater provision for work being carried out either in the basement of the blocks, or in special workshops adjoining them, and that each block should have a shopping store run by the Directorate, where all the necessities of life could be obtained at the lowest rates. A store for one hundred and twenty-three families, which means at least four hundred people, would certainly be justified.

The buildings are being erected in a substantial and workmanlike manner under a very interesting system. There are no building contractors, but every branch of work is let to the workers themselves as represented by their Unions. Sig. Constantini informed me that so far he is very well pleased with the experiment. The work is not done any more cheaply than if carried out in the ordinary manner, as the primary object of the Institute is not so much to effect a saving as to encourage the men to take a genuine interest in their work, while the object of the Unions is to enable their members to carry out work in a co-operative manner, and thus be freed from the wage system. Just before leaving London, a similar system was advocated by the

Manchester Unions, and was being acclaimed by some of the leaders of the Labour Party in London as a revelation—as a perfectly new movement full of hope for the manual workers of England. No mention was made of the fact that in Rome the system is already fully developed and on its trial.

As far as can be judged at present, it will achieve all that is hoped for. Very interesting, too, is the fact that there are many blocks of dwellings and some groups of individual homes which have been erected on the co-operative principle by those engaged in a particular branch of Government work, such as the railway, the tramway, post and telegraph, etc. To these groups of workers the Government loaned a large proportion of the required funds at the very low rate of interest of 2 per cent.

It is not, perhaps, advisable that workers in any industry should be thus grouped together, or even that groups of dwellings for manual workers should be kept apart. The aim of garden city and garden suburb advocates is, that in every part of the city or suburb there shall be members of all classes so that varied interests and varied activities shall add to the enjoyment of all. Still, the schemes here being carried out show an earnest desire on the part of the Government to better the conditions of manual and other workers, and to create a new Rome, a Rome which shall once again rise above the flood of troubles which surround her, and thus maintain her right to the title her long history has given her—the right to be called “The Eternal City.”

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### Classic Greek Design.

48. *Blenheim Crescent*, W.11.

5th June 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR.—In reply to Mr. Hambidge's remarks published in the last number of the JOURNAL, may I be allowed to disclaim any intention of raising a personal issue in my letter of March 31st? Mr. Hambidge takes offence at my use of the word “propaganda” with reference to his activities, but I can assure him that the word was used quite innocently to describe a perfectly legitimate method of expounding a philosophy, and it had none of the sinister significance which he attributes to it. Of the circumstances connected with the publication of his book on *Greek Pottery* I was entirely ignorant. Of course, I must plead guilty to the pun. I ought certainly to have known better, being quite familiar with Lewis Carroll's verse:

The good and great must ever shun  
That reckless and abandoned one  
Who stoops to perpetrate a pun!

Mr. Hambidge's contention that the terms “dynamic” and “static” apply to symmetry and not to mathematics does not dispose of the criticism which

has been directed against his theory. Unfortunately his “symmetry” is expressed in terms of mathematics, and if the mathematics is trivial, as Mr. Hambidge admits it to be, then some of the triviality which is inherent in it will also be reflected in his idea of symmetry.

Admitting that the principles of design should have an intimate relation with the principles which govern the growth of animal and vegetable life, we are not compelled to interpret this relation in a mathematical manner. But if we bring number into the computation at all, then we are not at liberty to take one or two square roots and argue that any part of animate nature is explicable in terms of these. All the mathematics which is yet known would be insufficient to enable us to define the shape of a shell or a leaf, for each of these is a little universe in itself. When Mr. Hambidge contends that he can determine these natural forms by reference to  $\sqrt{5}$ , it can only have the effect of making mathematics unpopular among those artists who have an appreciation of the subtleties of design. It must be pointed out, however, that a few ill-sorted fragments of arithmetic do not constitute mathematics, and that mathematicians are not to blame for a very crude simplification of a complex problem.

I was much interested in Mr. P. W. Hubbard's letter in the JOURNAL of April 24th. I am in agreement with him that if the proportions of Greek Architecture are simple functions of a surd, that is a fact deserving of a notice, but it can hardly be described as a merit in such architecture. On the contrary, it would be a defect which one would be sorry to find in a style of building which has so many claims to one's unstinted admiration.

I must conclude by thanking Mr. George Hubbard for his intervention on my behalf. His very witty remarks seemed to me to be strictly apposite to the question of “dynamic” symmetry.—Yours faithfully,  
A. TRYSTAN EDWARDS, M.A. [A.].

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### Increasing the Accommodation of Existing Small Houses [pp. 350-2].

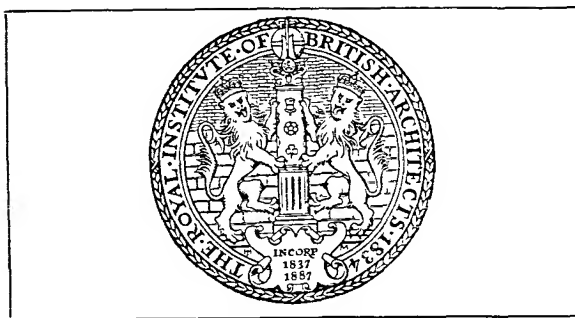
To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—I think that Mr. Munby has forgotten one or two points in his letter on this subject. Most of the houses of the kind illustrated are constructed with external walls only one brick thick, and the additional storey would necessitate the walls being thickened to a brick and a half on the ground and first floors.

The slope of the mansard roof must not be greater than 75 degrees, and the altered building would require a means of escape from the upper storey under Section 12 of the 1905 Act. Such an alteration would not, therefore, be a good investment.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY LOVEGROVE [A.].

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9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 12th June 1920

## CHRONICLE.

### Increase of Subscriptions.

The Special General Meeting summoned for Monday 7th June was duly held, and the Resolution of the 10th May deciding that an addition of one guinea be made to all entrance fees and subscriptions of Members and contributions of Licentiates was confirmed unanimously [see MINUTES, p. 391]. The Resolution involves alterations in By-law 17, and application is being made to the Privy Council to sanction the revision.

### The Institute's Tribute to the late Jean Louis Pascal.

At the General Meeting of the Institute last Monday, formal announcement was made to the members of the death of M. Jean Louis Pascal. *Hon. Corresponding Member* (1903), *Royal Gold Medallist* (1914), and on the motion of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Arthur Keen, the following resolution was passed:—

RESOLVED, That this Institute has learned with profound sorrow of the death of its illustrious and most esteemed Corresponding Member, Jean Louis Pascal, Membre de l'Institut de France, Royal Gold Medallist, and desires to place upon record its admiration for his achievements as an architect and as a teacher of architecture, and its respect for his distinguished qualities of mind and character. Further, that an expression of the Royal Institute's sympathy and condolence be conveyed to his near relatives; and that a sympathetic message be also forwarded to the Institut de France, the Société Centrale des Architectes Français, and the Société des Architectes diplômés par le Gouvernement, condoling with them on the loss of their eminent colleague.

Members signified their assent to the motion by simultaneously rising from their seats and standing in silence.

### Prizes and Studentships, 1921-22.

The pamphlet giving particulars of the Prizes and Studentships offered by the Royal Institute for 1921 and 1922 is now ready and may be obtained at the Institute, price sixpence. Important changes are to be noted in the programme, some of the more valuable prizes being offered now in alternate years, instead of annually, as hitherto. The alternate years' prizes are the Measured Drawings Medal (with £50), the Soane Medallion (with £150), the Pugin Medal (with £75), the Godwin Medal (with £130), and the Tite Certificate (with £100). The Measured Drawings, the Godwin and the Tite are given next year; the Soane and Pugin in 1922. The following are brief particulars of next year's list:—

THE ESSAY MEDAL AND TWENTY-FIVE GUINEAS, open to British subjects under the age of forty years, will be awarded for the best Essay on a subject of architectural interest, which may be chosen by each competitor for himself. Competitors are expected to make a useful contribution to knowledge by accurate research, so that the Essays can be accepted as authoritative statements on the subjects dealt with. Candidates in the Final Examination competing for this Prize may submit their Essay as the thesis required under the Revised Syllabus.

THE MEASURED DRAWINGS MEDAL AND £50, open to British subjects under the age of thirty years, will be awarded for the best Measured Drawings made by the competitor of any important building—Classical or Mediæval—in the United Kingdom or abroad.

THE GODWIN BURSARY AND WIMPERIS BEQUEST (A SILVER MEDAL AND £135), for the study of Modern Architecture Abroad, and open to British subjects without limitation as to age, will be awarded for the best selection of practical working drawings (the competitor's own work), or other evidence of special practical knowledge, and testimonials. The winner is required to spend at least five weeks abroad in the investigation of modern planning and modes of construction, drainage, water supply, ventilation, and other sanitary arrangements, and must, before the 31st December 1921, deliver to the Council an illustrated descriptive report of his researches.

THE OWEN JONES STUDENTSHIP (CERTIFICATE AND £100), founded for the encouragement of the study of Architecture, more particularly in respect to Ornament and Coloured Decoration, and open to members of the profession under the age of thirty-five years. Candidates must submit testimonials, with drawings, some of which must be from existing buildings and from other examples, exhibiting their acquaintance with colour decoration and with the leading subjects treated of in Owen Jones's *Grammar of Ornament*, together with an original architectural design treated in colour decoration. The winner has to devote a tour of at least six months' duration to the improvement and cultivation of his knowledge of the successful application of colour as a means of architectural expression, and during his tour must prepare a drawing of a subject in coloured decoration for presentation to the Institute.

THE TITE PRIZE (CERTIFICATE AND £100), open to British subjects under the age of thirty years, will be awarded for the best Design for an Italian Villa, inspired by Pliny's description in his letter to Gallus (the description is given in full in the pamphlet). The winner is required, within two years after receiving the Certificate, to study in Italy for at least eight weeks, and give satisfactory evidence of his studies there in the form of measured drawings and sketches.

THE HENRY SAXON SNELL PRIZE (£50), founded for the encouragement of the study of the improved design and construction of Hospitals, of Convalescent Homes, and of



Asylums for the Aged and Infirm Poor, will be awarded to any member of the Architectural Profession (who may associate with himself any member of the Medical Profession) who produces the best Design for an Asylum for 200 Aged and Infirm Poor. The successful candidate will be required to spend not less than four weeks in a tour, either in the United Kingdom or abroad, to study, examine, and report on the type of building for which he has won the prize.

THE HENRY JARVIS STUDENTSHIP, value £250 a year, tenable for two years at the new British School at Rome. Candidates must be British subjects and under the age of thirty at the date of entry for the Final Competition, and must be either Associates or registered Students of the Royal Institute. The competitions will be held in conjunction with those for the Scholarship (tenable for three years at the British School at Rome) offered by the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, and will be conducted under the direction of the Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome.

THE GRISSELL PRIZE (GOLD MEDAL AND £50), for the encouragement of the study of Construction, open to British subjects in practice not more than ten years, will be awarded to the competitor who produces the best design for a Kinema Theatre to seat 1,000 persons.

THE ARTHUR CATES PRIZE (£30), founded for the promotion of the study of Architecture more especially in relation to the application of geometry to vaulting, will be awarded to a British subject who has passed the Final Examination at one sitting and shall submit studies of Classical or Renaissance and Mediaeval Architecture and detailed studies of the application of geometry to vaulting and stability of edifice.

THE ASHPITEL PRIZE (BOOKS VALUE £10), founded for the encouragement of the study of Architecture, will be awarded to the candidate who has distinguished himself the most highly in the Final Examinations, 1920.

The following Prizes will be offered in 1922:—

THE SOANE MEDALLION AND £150, for a Design for a Convocation Hall.

THE PUGIN TRAVELLING STUDENTSHIP (SILVER MEDAL AND £75).

### The Annual Elections: Scrutineers' Reports.

The results of the Annual Elections are recorded in the subjoined Reports of the Scrutineers, which were read at the General Meeting on Monday, 7th June.

The Scrutineers appointed to count the votes for the election of the Council and Standing Committees for the Session 1920-21 beg to report as follows:—812 envelopes were received—310 from Fellows, 498 from Associates, and 4 from Hon. Associates. The result of the election is as follows:—

PRESIDENT.—John W. Simpson (unopposed).

PAST PRESIDENTS.—Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Litt.D.; Henry Thomas Hare (unopposed).

VICE-PRESIDENTS.—*Elected*: Edward Guy Dawber, 628 votes; Walter Cave, 588; Alfred William Stephens Cross, 583; Stanley Davenport Adshad, 512.—*Not Elected*: Herbert Duncan Searles-Wood, 425.

HON. SECRETARY.—Arthur Keen (unopposed).

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION. Giles Gilbert Scott, A.R.A. (unopposed).

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL: FELLOWS.—*Elected*: Robert Atkinson, 640 votes; Paul Waterhouse, 637; Maurice E. Webb, 623; Major Harry Barnes, M.P., 616; Edwin Stanley Hall, 606; Sir Edwin Landseer Lutyens, R.A., 601; Henry Vaughan Lanchester, 599; William Curtis Green, 592; James Glen Sivewright Gibson, 574; George Hubbard, 560; Sydney Perks, 541; Thomas Geoffrey Lucas, 519; Henry Philip Burke Downing, 503; William Edward Riley, 496; Sir Banister Flight Fletcher, 473; Henry Martineau Fletcher, 472; Emanuel Vincent Harris, 446; Max Clarke, 442.—*Not Elected*: William Wood-

ward, 430; George Topham Forrest, 410; Charles Lovett Gill, 353; Sir Charles Tamlin Ruthen, 336; Delissa Joseph, 321; Percival Maurice Fraser, 307; W. Henry White, 302.

ASSOCIATE-MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.—*Elected*: William Godfrey Newton, 535 votes; Stanley Hinge Hamp, 473; Leslie Patrick Abercrombie, 454; Horace William Cubitt, 418; Digby Lewis Solomon, 358; James Stockdale Harrison, 340.—*Not Elected*: Lionel Bailey Budden, 328; Arthur William Sheppard, 312; Leonard Rome Guthrie, 305; Leonard Holcombe Bucknell, 263; Herbert Arthur Welch, 263; Robert Lowry, 198.

REPRESENTATIVES OF ALLIED SOCIETIES.—Herbert Tudor Buckland (Birmingham); Charles Septimus Errington (Newcastle); Charles Burrows Flockton (Sheffield); John Alfred Gotch (Northampton); Arthur William Hennings (Manchester); Llewellyn Kitchen (York); Thomas Taliesin Rees (Liverpool); George Watt (Aberdeen); William B. White (Glasgow) (unopposed).

HON. AUDITORS.—Harold Goslett [F.]; Charles Edward Hutchinson [A.] (unopposed).

804 voting papers received.

Scrutineers.—Arthur Bartlett, R. Stephen Aylmng, P. W. Hubbard, E. A. Young, Theodore Fyfe, F. J. Toop, Charles Woodward, J. MacLaren Ross, Henry A. Saul, Sydney Tatchell, Francis Hooper (Chairman).

ART STANDING COMMITTEE: FELLOWS.—*Elected*: Ernest Newton, R.A., 671 votes; Walter Cave, 623; John Alfred Gotch, 599; Sidney Kyffin Greenslade, 596; William Adam Forsyth, 564; Frederick Moore Simpson, 562; Maurice Everett Webb, 544; John James Joass, 509; Henry Philip Burke Downing, 505; Walter Tapper, 484.—*Not Elected*: Alfred Cox, 449; Basil Oliver, 303; Philip Henry Tree, 292.

ASSOCIATES.—*Elected*: James Black Fulton, 570 votes; Percy Wells Lovell, 535; William Robert Davidge, 470; Hubert Springford East, 469; Leonard Rome Guthrie, 466; Edwin Gunn, 451.—*Not Elected*: William Arthur Webb, 435; John Ernest Newberry, 383; Lawrence Alexander David Shiner, 168.

Scrutineers.—I. B. Pite, R. M. Pigott, Campbell Reid, Francis Hooper (Chairman).

LITERATURE STANDING COMMITTEE: FELLOWS.—*Elected*: William Henry Ward, 654 votes; Edward Guy Dawber, 624; Percy Leslie Waterhouse, 618; Henry Martineau Fletcher, 609; Hubert Christian Corlette, 593; Henry Heathcote Statham, 556; Herbert Austen Hall, 549; Charles Harrison Townsend, 547; Martin Shaw Briggs, 520; Louis Ambler, 513.—*Not Elected*: David Theodore Fyfe, 474; Stanley Churchill Ramsey, 419.

ASSOCIATES.—*Elected*: John Hubert Worthington, 593 votes; John Alan Slater, 592; Arthur Trystan Edwards, 553; Arthur Hamilton Moberly, 543; Harold Chalton Bradshaw, 400; Herbert Passmore, 387.—*Not Elected*: Frederick Robert Hiorns, 328; Charles Edward Sayer, 255; Leo Sylvester Sullivan, 241.

Scrutineers.—J. H. Shearer, T. Hansford White, Francis Hooper (Chairman).

PRACTICE STANDING COMMITTEE: FELLOWS.—*Elected*: Alfred William Stephens Cross, 580 votes; Sydney Perks, 543; John Slater, 543; William Gillbee Scott, 500; William Woodward, 496; Max Clarke, 488; William George Hunt, 442; Henry Victor Ashley, 441; Francis William Troup, 415; W. Henry White, 393.—*Not Elected*: Herbert Arnold Satchell, 392; Delissa Joseph, 374; Frederick Chatterton, 337; Frederick Atkinson Powell, 317; Harold Goslett, 217.

ASSOCIATES.—*Elected*: Horace William Cubitt, 636 votes; Harry Valentine Milnes Emerson, 569; Charles Edward Hutchinson, 560; Charles McLachlan, 520; Herbert Haylock Golding, 500; Kensington Gammell, 488.—*Not Elected*: Herbert Arthur Welch, 487.

Scrutineers.—Michael Tapper, Harold I. Meriman, J. A. Cheston, Frank T. Dear, Francis Hooper (Chairman).



SCIENCE STANDING COMMITTEE : FELLOWS.—Stanley Davenport Adshead; James Ernest Franck; George Hornblower; George Hubbard; Alan Edward Munby; Henry Albert Saul; Herbert Duncan Searles-Wood (unopposed).

ASSOCIATES. — Charles Archibald Daubney; Philip Waddington Hubbard; John Hatton Markham; Herbert Shepherd; Digby Lewis Solomon; Theodore Francis Hansford White (unopposed).

753 voting papers received.

#### An Offer from the A.I.A. Committee on Foreign Building Co-operation.

The President has received the following letter from Mr. Charles Butler, Chairman of the American Institute of Architects' Committee on Foreign Building Co-operation :—

28th April 1920.

MY DEAR MR. SIMPSON,—As Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Building Co-operation of the American Institute of Architects, I take pleasure in tendering to you the services of our Committee.

We have for some months been in touch with our French colleagues and have been able to procure for them information of various sorts, together with plans of certain types of buildings which they desired, and we should greatly appreciate it if we could perform any similar service for our confrères in Great Britain.

I do not know whether any of the members of the Institute will be in London this summer, but at our coming Convention I shall urge those who expect to be over to make a point of calling upon you and establishing informal contact, at least. I have just received word of the appointment of my associate, Mr. Robert D. Kohn, past President of the New York Chapter, A.I.A., as representative of New York State at the International Housing Conference to be held in London early in June. Mr. Kohn is now trying to arrange his affairs to permit of his accepting the appointment, and I need not tell you that, if he is able to go to London, he will most certainly call upon you. During the war Mr. Kohn served as Chief of the Housing Division of the United States Shipping Board, and his knowledge of and interest in housing matters makes him especially anxious to visit England at this time, and I know that no one can more worthily represent the State of New York and the American Institute.

I personally expect to be in France during the summer, but I do not believe that I shall be able to get to London, though I shall make every effort to do so.

With kind regards, I am, yours sincerely,

CHARLES BUTLER, *Chairman*.

Sir Reginald Blomfield, Litt.D. Liverpool.

It is of interest to record in the JOURNAL the following speech delivered by the Professor of Literature at Liverpool University on the occasion recently of the Presentation of Sir Reginald Blomfield for the Degree of Doctor of Letters :—

Sir Reginald Blomfield, Master of Arts, Member of the Royal Academy, and sometime President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, is the accepted

historian of the architecture of our English Renaissance, and has been foremost in the revival of that noble and native style. London, with many other cities and towns, and with many a countryside, is adorned by the original work of this student of Inigo Jones and Christopher Wren, the masters whom his learned and sensitive scholarship has shown in their true scale, and whose shades must claim him as a worthy follower. He has also recorded the beautiful patterns of the English formal garden; and on the architecture of the French Renaissance he is equally an authority. The Cross of his designing that stands as a War Memorial to the British Dead will be the care of many generations. It is well that this University, with its living School of Architecture, which has profited by Sir Reginald Blomfield's counsel and influence, and by his gift as an organiser of teaching, should be the first to offer its highest honour to this accomplished and masculine artist; and that the award should be approved by the city whose pride is this hall, designed by Harvey Lonsdale Elmes.—In the name of the Senate and Council I present to you Reginald Blomfield for the degree of Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, of this University.

#### The Guild of Builders (London), Limited.

The Preliminary Prospectus has been received of the Guild of Builders (London), Limited, which is issued by the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives (London District Council) in the form of a pamphlet entitled "An Industry cleared for Action." A covering letter from the Secretary of the Federation says that the prospectus is offered as a real contribution towards the establishment of the great system of National Guilds that is destined, before many years are over, to revolutionise completely the motives and control of industry. The National development of the scheme is to be presented to the Building Trades Parliament next August for serious investigation and discussion by the representative assembly of the industry. The promoters admit that the prospectus is indefinite and incomplete, and state that it is designed so, that they have done no more than sketch the broad foundations upon which the superstructure of the new industry will be built up by the men who offer themselves for Guild service. The following extracts from the pamphlet will give an idea of the scheme :—

A Guild in its full development means a whole industry cleared for action, with all sections united for a common purpose—with a new incentive, the organised service of the community, instead of the attainment of profits.

The Guild of Builders boldly challenges the industrial traditions of a century, and makes its appeal solely to the best instincts and creative impulses of men. For it is the first industrial organisation in history that is set up to *give* service rather than to *get* it. Every word that Ruskin or Mazzini uttered on the claims of Duty and the joy of self-expression in free service, finds its echo here. . . . It stands on a different plane from all other industrial systems, whether controlled by the State, by municipalities,

or by consumers. They are the organisation of *Rights*. Guilds are the organisation of *Duties*. . . .

The Trade Union Ticket is the certificate of Guild membership. Every member of every branch of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives and of every other approved group of Building Trade Workers in the district is a Guildsman, and has a vote in the election of the Guild Committee. This, in turn, will ultimately form a part of the National Guild of Builders, a great industrial combine for the public service, with full democratic control by all the workers by hand or brain engaged in that service.

The Guild Committee will consist of representatives of (a) the trade unions affiliated to the District Section of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives; (b) any other trade unions or groups of building trade workers within the district, whether administrative, technical, clerical or operative, that may be approved by the Committee. Each trade union or approved group will elect one member. Each of these members on election will take up a One Shilling share in a Society registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts and entitled "The Guild of Builders (London), Ltd." He will also deposit with his electors a signed, open transfer, thus giving them power to replace him. The Guild Committee thus becomes a legal entity with power to enter into contracts, and yet the whole of its members are under the control of the industrial democracy they represent.

The first and immediate duty of the Guild is to mobilise the necessary labour to build the houses so urgently needed by the nation, and to build them in the best possible manner at the lowest possible cost. The objects are: (1) To carry on the industry of builders, decorators and general contractors; (2) To undertake all branches of supply, whether as merchant, manufacturer or transporter; (3) To carry on any other work which the Society may think necessary or desirable in connection with the above objects. From this it will be seen that the Guild is designed ultimately to undertake every branch of the building industry and to provide its customers with the services of skilled architects and engineers, to purchase and manufacture the materials, to transport them to the site, erect the buildings—and even, perhaps, to furnish them.

The Guild Committee will be responsible for the appointment and removal of managers and for the fixing of their salaries.

The labour of Guildsmen will no longer be regarded as a commodity, like bricks or timber, to be purchased, or not, as required. As soon as it can be arranged, the Guildsman will be "on the strength" for life. He will draw Guild pay in sickness or accident, in bad weather or in good, at work or in reserve.

The minimum Guild pay will always be the full standard rate as fixed for the industry as a whole, but there is no doubt that the Guild will be able to increase the purchasing power of its members' pay by the scientific organisation of production.

The Guild will undertake work for every type of building owner, whether public or private. It will build for agreed prices or for prime cost plus a fee. But in every contract the price or the fee must include the percentage necessary to secure during its run, to all engaged thereon, the continuous Guild pay described in the last paragraph. Beyond this there will be a small percentage for the purchase of plant, for overhead charges, and, if necessary, for the hire of capital, at fixed rates, without powers of control.

Surplus earnings will under no circumstances be distributed as dividends. They will always be used for the improvement of the service, by providing for increased equipment, for reserve, for technical training and research, and for the elimination of hired capital.

It is intended that all plant and material shall be transferred to the properly constituted authority to be set up in connection with the National Guild of Builders.

The Guild stands for the revival of the Building Art. It

will offer scope to the craftsman such as he has never dared to hope for. It opens out possibilities of service to the skilled administrators and technicians that the old system could not possibly provide. And it gives them all a new status as free men working in a democratic comradeship of service.

The Guild will give no financial guarantee for the performance of its contracts. It pledges itself to carry out the work that it undertakes, and it supports this with a roll of volunteers pledged to do the work.

The *Guild Journal* is an essential feature of the scheme. It will keep all the Guildsmen informed as to the progress of the movement. It will follow closely the proceedings of the Building Trades' Parliament, before which the Guild proposals will be frequently debated. It will illustrate the buildings erected by the Guild, describe new methods and new processes, circulate statistics, publish correspondence, and, above all, it will be recognised and read by the public as the official organ of the New Industrial Democracy.

Forms to be filled up by volunteers for Guild service accompany the prospectus, and offers of service are invited from every grade of building trade worker, administrative, technical or operative.

### The State and the Building Guilds.

The following statement has been issued by the Ministry of Health:—

The attitude of the Ministry of Health towards the Building Guild principle has from the start been one of sympathy; but several difficulties of detail presented themselves for solution before the Ministry could feel fully justified in approving it. The guilds' position in reference to the purchase of materials, for example, was not clearly defined. The Co-operative Wholesale Society, however, have now agreed to give the guilds the assistance of their extensive organisation, and it is hoped that a satisfactory arrangement may be reached.

There was some difficulty also as to the form of remuneration to be received by the guilds for their work. At first they adopted the proposal of remuneration by a simple percentage on the cost of the work done, not fully realising certain disadvantages of this method which are not removed by the fact that the guilds, while proposing to confer on their members the benefit of continuous employment and payment, do not intend any distribution in the nature of bonus or profit. Under such a system of simple percentage payment on cost it might easily happen, in connection with a scheme well and economically managed, that there would be an inadequate fund for this purpose; and that, in another scheme which was less carefully conducted, with consequent high costs, the fund was more than sufficient. Both results would be unsatisfactory. The Ministry desired that the amount which was to go as remuneration or extra benefit to labour should be a fixed sum per house: a plan which would secure that the benefit would be at least a little in favour of the well-managed, economical schemes.

The portion of the percentage which, under the proposal, was allotted to cover costs of management, plant, insurance, and other overhead charges and any surplus, which by the rules of the guild is not to be distributed in benefits, but is to be used solely to improve the plant and services of the guild, is not subject to the same objection, and the Ministry are willing to accept a percentage basis for this for the present, though experience may show some simpler way of dealing with this also. The question of obtaining from the guilds some definite estimate of costs and some suitable guarantee, so far as circumstances now permit, that the work would be carried out to estimate, also needed settlement.

Several conferences have recently been held between representatives of the guilds and officers of the Ministry of

Health with a view to arriving at a satisfactory working basis. The promoters of the Manchester organisation, on learning the Ministry's views, proved quite ready to agree to certain modifications of their proposals. An agreement has now been reached, and it is of importance as illustrating principles which may prove capable of more extended application.

The guild have agreed to give a definite estimate of cost for each type of house. This estimate must be regarded as reasonable by both the parties concerned—the guild and the local authority—and must be approved by the Ministry. The guild's remuneration will be by a lump sum of £40 per house—to provide for a full-time week (regardless of weather) for those employed on the contract and for other purposes of the guild. A further allowance of 6 per cent. on the prime cost of the house will be made to cover the cost of plant and other overhead charges, such as salaries of buyers, supervisors, and others who are not wholly employed on the building site.

In the event of the actual cost of a house proving less than the estimated cost, the actual cost only, plus the £40 and the 6 per cent. overhead charges, will be paid by the local authority. The guild recognise and agree that in any case the 6 per cent. for overhead charges should not be paid on any increase in the cost of materials taking place during the progress of the work, although for the purpose of determining whether the estimate has been exceeded or not, fluctuations in the standard rates of labour and prices of materials will be allowed for.

If the actual cost should prove to be more than the estimated cost, after the usual allowance for the fluctuation in wages rates and prices, the guild will receive the £40 as above, but the 6 per cent. will not be payable on the amount of the extra cost.

The agreement provides also that the Co-operative Wholesale Society may be associated in the contract for the purchase of materials. The contract must include a break clause allowing the contract to be broken after three months if the costs should exceed the estimate by more than any increase that has occurred in the meantime in the rates of wages and in the standard cost of materials. The Co-operative Wholesale Society, on being satisfied with the contract, will insure the local authority against loss under the contract for an insurance premium of one-eighth per cent., 2s. 6d. per £100. The guild are in agreement with the Ministry that a proper costing system shall be adopted.

#### Royal Engineers' War Memorial.

A Special Committee, representing all branches of the Corps of Royal Engineers, including Territorials and New Armies, which was appointed soon after the Armistice to draw up a scheme for the Royal Engineers' War Memorial, has decided that a proposal, now under consideration by H.M. Office of Works, to allot four sites on the Mall, opposite Marlborough Gate, for War Memorials, affords the most satisfactory solution for the monumental side of the Royal Engineers' Memorial. One of these sites has accordingly been applied for, and, if they become available, the four sites would be treated in one comprehensive architectural scheme. It is understood that the Cavalry, the Royal Artillery and the Guards are considering the question of taking up the remaining three sites. Should the Mall scheme fall through, a memorial would be erected on a War Department site at the corps headquarters at Chatham, near the Crimean and South African Memorial arches. In this case competitive designs will be invited, with Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., as assessor. Permission has been obtained to instal the Royal Engineers' Roll of Honour in the N.W. Chapel of St. Paul's Cathedral, where the National Memorial to Lord Kitchener is to be placed.

The chapel will be known as the "Kitchener Chapel," and it is intended to provide an ex-R.E. custodian to facilitate inspection of the Roll.

The balance of the subscriptions to the Memorial will be devoted to giving educational assistance to the dependents of those killed or incapacitated in the war, the capital and interest thereon being utilised and the expenditure spread over a period of eighteen years. Small scholarships will be granted to help sons and daughters of the men to go on to technical and secondary schools; also to help sons and daughters of those who in pre-war days would have sent their children to a public school or similar institution.

The President of the Institute has received a letter from Lieut.-General Ronald C. Maxwell, chairman of the R.E. War Memorial Committee, stating that, so far, the total subscriptions amount only to some £32,000. The Mall monument will cost at least £15,000, and the Roll of Honour in St. Paul's £1,000, leaving but £16,000 for education. A large proportion of officers and men had returned to civil life before any appeal to subscribe could reach them, and it has been possible to get into touch with only a very few since. General Maxwell therefore asks the aid of the Institute in bringing the matter to the knowledge of ex-R.E. architects in order that they may have an opportunity of co-operating by subscribing to the memorial and by spreading the information to all ex-Royal Engineers and relatives of the deceased with whom they may be in contact. General Maxwell emphasises the fact that this is in no sense a memorial to regulars only. Benefits, scholarships, etc., will be distributed to all alike—Regulars, Special Reserve, Territorials and New Armies, and to all branches of the corps, including transportation, signals, and all special companies raised for the varied duties allotted to the Engineers in the war. Subscriptions should be sent to the Secretary, R.E. War Memorial, R.E. Institute, Chatham.

#### Professional Problems before the American Institute.

The Post-War Committee on Architectural Practice which was formed by the American Institute of Architects for the purpose of setting up a Committee which could function independently of the Institute in order that representatives of the entire profession, including all architectural organisations, might be invited to participate, has presented its report to the annual convention of the American Institute just recently held. The Committee's object has been to encourage a more comprehensive organisation of the entire profession and clear the atmosphere of uncertainty and misunderstanding as to what the term "architect" implies and what responsibilities attach to the practice of the profession; to recognise that the problems of the profession are largely social problems affected sympathetically by rapidly changing social and economic conditions; to impress upon architects their obligations as professional men to society, and to bring about a clearer understanding of the relationships that should or do exist between the architect and those whom he may serve, those with whom he collaborates and all others who render a professional service. The Committee summarises its definite accomplishments as follows:—

(a) Have received and tabulated under subject headings a mass of opinion, suggestion and criticism from individuals and societies bearing on various phases of the problems confronting the Architectural Profession. Lack of funds has prevented the general distribution of a digest of this material.

(b) Have established a point of contact and machinery for co-operation between the Architects and Engineering Council.

(c) Have established a definite basis for co-operation between Organised Labour, Building Contractors, and Engineers. This probably being the opening wedge to a broader co-operation and more sympathetic understanding between these great elements in the Building Industry.

(d) Have laid the foundation for a closer association with the Building Industry through participation in the Conference of the National Federation of Construction Industries.

(e) Have placed an argument for Registration of Architects, together with practical data on Registration Laws—mode of procedure to secure such laws, etc.—in the hands of individuals and organisations in practically every State in the Union.

(f) Have placed the question of the organisation of State Societies, together with an outline of the experiences of States having such Societies, and also a form of Constitution and By-Laws, in practically every State in the Union, through the membership of the Post-War Committee.

(g) Have probably started a larger body of Architects thinking concurrently along formulated lines of study than ever before.

(h) Have developed a form of organisation that has many features to recommend it as a workable machine for carrying on educational effort of national scope.

(i) Have developed through the effort of the special Post-War Committee of the Washington State Chapter a chart indicating desirable fields for investigation in the study of problems affecting the profession of Architecture.

(j) Have laid the basis for an international professional relationship, by correspondence and interchange of documents and information. This relationship has taken an active form through the creation of the Institute Committee on Foreign Co-operation, and the Post-War Committee hopes that this work may be prosecuted with vigour as a part of the basis of a new and more tolerant relationship among all nations.

(k) Have established relationship between the various Professions through the formation of the Inter-Professional Conference.

The Executive Council believes that the Committee's work has now been brought to a point where it can better be carried on by properly constituted Institute Committees.

The following are set down as subjects worthy of further study as suggested by a preponderance of criticism in the replies received to the Post-War questionnaires:—

1. What should be the function of the American Institute of Architects:

(a) A national organisation of the Profession and a direct factor in economic and social life; or,

(b) A dignified Academy attainable only by a few, and dealing only with the internal ethics of the Profession?

2. What should be understood by the term "Architect"? The public should know the circumscribed field of the Architect's legitimate activity, just as the public knows that of the doctor and the lawyer.

3. The desirability of giving Local Chapters of the Institute greater authority in formulating rules of practice for the guidance of their members, more in conformity with established custom in a locality.

4. As related to creating sentiment in favour of Registration Laws: to set up a standard of what a man should know and be competent in before he enters into practice as a Principal.

5. Parliament of Building Industries.

6. The entire subject of relationship between architects and draughtsmen.

7. Methods of organisation of an architect's office to render complete service.

8. The value of dignified publicity after a definite policy and a definite meaning of terms have been established.

9. Architects' Remuneration: (a) The percentage system; (b) Cost—plus a fixed fee; (c) Other methods.

10. Expense of estimating: (a) Quantity Survey; (b) Contractors' Bureaus; (c) Commercial Bureaus for Member Contractors.

11. Schedule of charges to provide for complete service, omitting reference to employment of specialists, clerk of works, and data to be furnished by the owner.

#### National Health Insurance Act.

Mr. F. R. YERBURY, Secretary of the Architects' and Surveyors' Approved Society, writes:—

For the information of architects and surveyors, perhaps you will be good enough to allow me to call attention to the provisions of the 1920 National Health Insurance Act, under which employers and employed are required to pay an additional contribution weekly.

Contributions increased from 7d. to 10d. for men (employer pays 5d., man 5d.); from 6d. to 9d. for women (employer pays 5d., woman 4d.).

Sickness benefit increased from 10s. to 15s. a week for men; from 7s. 6d. to 12s. a week for women.

Disablement benefit increased from 5s. to 7s. 6d. a week for men and women.

Maternity benefit increased from 30s. to £2.

This Act comes into force on 5th July, 1926.

#### Honours for Members.

The following decorations have been conferred by Allied Governments upon Sir BANISTER FLETCHER [F.], ex-Sheriff of the City of London, in recognition of valuable services rendered during the war:

*Conferred by the King of the Belgians*: Commander of the Order of Leopold II.

*Conferred by the King of the Netherlands*: Commander of the Order of George I.

*Conferred by the President of the Republic of China*: Second Class, with Grand Cordons, of the Order of the Excellent Crop.

Sir Banister is also *Officier de la Legion d'Honneur*, conferred by the President of the French Republic.

Sir ROBERT S. LORIMER [F.], A.R.S.A., has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy.

Elections to Fellowship of the Society of Antiquaries in recent months include Mr. PAUL WATERHOUSE [F.], Mr. E. GUY DAWBER [F.], and Mr. H. P. BURKE DOWNING.

#### The "Director of Works" at H.M. Office of Works.

The Commissioners of H.M. Office of Works have consolidated their various architectural and surveying departments and placed them under one head, who is styled the "Director of Works." Sir Frank James, C.B.E., M.V.O., has been appointed to the position.

#### Fatal Accident to the Institute Lantern Slide Operator.

Members attending the Institute meetings at which lantern slides have been shown will perhaps remember the lantern operator, Mr. J. T. Hawkins, a man scarcely yet in his prime. It is with great regret that we have to record his death, from injuries received under peculiarly tragic circumstances on the 22nd May. Riding a motor cycle in West Norwood, his clothing caught fire owing, it is supposed, to a leak on the inlet valve of the motor. Enveloped in flames he dismounted and plunged into some bushes near by, endeavouring to extinguish the flames and rid himself of his burning clothes. He was badly burned in face and limbs and was taken to King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, where he succumbed to his injuries a few days later.

## COMPETITIONS.

### Gatley War Memorial. Gravesend War Memorial.

Members and Licentiates of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above Competitions because the Conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

By Order of the Council,

IAN MACALISTER.

### Twickenham War Heroes Memorial. Rhyl War Memorial Hospital.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above Competitions are unsatisfactory. The Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the Competition.

### Appeal for the Co-operation of Architects to secure Satisfactory Conditions.

The following Memorandum is published by direction of the Council:—

The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects urge the co-operation of all architects, members of the Institute and the Allied Societies and others, in their endeavours to secure satisfactory conditions for architectural competitions. The Institute Regulations for Competitions have been drawn up after careful consideration by the Council and the Competitions Committee. All members of the Institute and the Allied Societies are bound by them, and it is only by their strict observance that the best results for promoters and the fair treatment of competing architects can be assured. These Regulations are printed in the Institute KALENDAR, and also in pamphlet form. Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained from the Secretary of the R.I.B.A., and it is the duty of all members competing to be familiar with them.

Only when all other means have failed does the Competitions Committee request the Council to bar a competition, and it is often able, when put into touch with the promoters at an early stage, to bring about the amendment of unsatisfactory conditions, but at present no system can be arranged by which the conditions of all competitions shall automatically be presented to the Committee for review. The Committee must therefore rely largely upon intelligence given by members who, having applied for copies of conditions, find them not to accord with the Regulations. Early intervention is essential to success; members and others are requested to lose no time in sending copies of such conditions to the Hon. Secretary of the Competitions Committee.

The Council make the following suggestions for the improvement of architectural competitions:—

1. When applying for the conditions, intending competitors should state that unless the essential clauses of the R.I.B.A. Conditions are embodied therein they will be unable to compete.
2. On receipt of the conditions they should compare them with the Regulations and note any discrepancies.
3. If any clauses are unsatisfactory they should at once communicate with the Hon. Secretary of the Competitions Committee: they should also return the conditions without delay to the promoters, pointing out in what respects they are unsatisfactory, and intimate that if they are amended to accord with the Institute Regulations they will be pleased to reconsider their decision not to compete.

In some cases it may be desirable, when it becomes known that a competition is proposed, that architects in the neighbourhood should ascertain whether the promoters know of the Institute Regulations, and if not, should provide them with a copy.

The Council remind members that they may neither assess nor take part in competitions which are not in exact accordance with the Regulations, even if they have not seen any notice issued by the Institute. At the same time it invites all architects, non-members as well as members of the Institute, to co-operate in carrying out these suggestions. Much has already been done: only by constant vigilance and timely concerted action will the respect of the public be secured and the highest aims of architecture attained.

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### Ulster Society of Architects.

A General Meeting of the Ulster Society was held in the Melville Hotel, Londonderry, on Thursday, 27th May, on the arrival of the Belfast train by which a number of the Belfast members travelled north. Mr. Henry, M.S.A., President, occupied the chair. Business connected with the profession both in Belfast and Derry was transacted and the members adjourned to the dining-room of the hotel for lunch as the guests of the Londonderry Committee, being joined by representatives of the Derry Master Builders' Association. Mr. Buchanan, the chairman of the local Committee, acted as host and in proposing the health of the visitors expressed the hope that this would be the forerunner of many future annual reunions of the Society in the northern city. The President and Hon. Secretary replied on behalf of the visitors and extended to the Derry members a cordial invitation to visit Belfast at an early date. Subsequently visits were paid to the Guildhall, The Walls, Cathedral, and the Long Tower Chapel, the architect in charge of each building acting as guide and explaining the various features of interest.

E. R. KENNEDY [A.], *Hon. Secretary.*

*Belfast.*

## MINUTES. XV.

At a Special General Meeting, summoned by the Council in accordance with By-law 65, held Monday, 7th June, 1920, at 8 p.m., Mr. Alfred W. S. Cross, *Vice-President*, in the Chair, the Minutes of the Special General Meeting (re Increase of Subscriptions), held 10th May 1920, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Chairman stated the purpose of the Meeting—viz., to confirm the Resolution passed at the Special General Meeting of the 10th May with reference to the entrance fees and subscriptions of Members and the contributions of Licentiates.

The Chairman thereupon moved, Mr. Max Clarke [F.] seconded, and it was

RESOLVED, unanimously, that this Meeting, called in pursuance of Clause 33 of the Charter, do confirm the resolution passed at the Special General Meeting of the 10th May—viz., That in order to provide funds to meet the increase in expenditure due to the general advance in prices, an addition of one guinea be made to all entrance fees and subscriptions of Members and contributions of Licentiates: and that the necessary steps be taken to obtain the sanction of the Privy Council to such revision of By-law 17 as is required to give effect to this resolution.

The Special General Meeting then terminated.

At the Fifteenth General Meeting (Business) of the Session 1919-20, held Monday, 7th June, 1920, immediately following the Special General Meeting above recorded, and similarly constituted, the Minutes of the meeting held 17th May, 1920, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of Albert Edward Lacey, *Associate*, elected 1903; and Thomas Lewis Banks, elected *Associate* 1872, *Fellow* 1885, and placed on List of *Retired Fellows* in 1910.

The Hon. Secretary also announced the decease of Jean Louis Pascal, *Hon. Corresponding Member, Royal Gold Medallist* 1914, and, having referred to his eminence as an architect and as a teacher of architecture, moved and it was thereupon

RESOLVED, That this Institute has learned with profound sorrow of the death of its illustrious and most esteemed Corresponding Member, Jean Louis Pascal, Membre de l'Institut de France, Royal Gold Medallist, and desires to place upon record its admiration for his achievements as an architect and as a teacher of architecture, and its respect for his distinguished qualities of mind and character. Further, that an expression of the Royal Institute's sympathy and condolence be conveyed to his near relatives: and that a sympathetic message be also forwarded to the Institut de France, the Société Centrale des Architectes Français, and the Société des Architectes diplômés par le Gouvernement, condoling with them on the loss of their eminent colleague.

The following candidates were elected by show of hands:—

As Hon. Fellow.

HARDY: THOMAS, O.M. [R.I.B.A. Essay Medallist 1862.]

As Hon. Associates (2).

DITCHFIELD: Rev. PETER HAMPSON, M.A., F.S.A.  
PIPER: EDWARD WILLIAM HARVEY.

As Fellows (19).

AGUTTER: THOMAS CHARLES [A., 1907].  
ANDERSON: Captain HERBERT COOPER, R.E. [A., 1909].  
CULLEY: NORMAN [A., 1904].  
CURTIS: SPENCER CAREY [A., 1904].

ELMS: EDWARD FURNESS MARSON [A., 1902].

GORDON: HENRY PERCY [A., 1904].

HALL: ALNER WILSON, M.C. [A., 1910].

HETT: LEONARD KEIR [A., 1911].

MOBERLY: ARTHUR HAMILTON, M.A. Cantab. [A., 1910].

RICHLEY: NORMAN [A., 1919].

SHEPHERD: HERBERT [A., 1898].

SMITH: FRANCIS DANBY [A., 1902].

TROTP: FRANCIS GORDON [A., 1910].

WOOD: ERNEST MARSHALL [A., 1909].

And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying examination:—

ARMSTRONG: CHARLES MONTEGUE CECIL.

EVILL: NORMAN.

FARROW: JOHN WILFORD HILBERT.

LLOYD: THOMAS ALWYN.

WAKEFIELD: BENJAMIN FREDERICK GEORGE.

As Associates (140).

N.B.—The Special War Exemption candidates had in all cases qualified for registration as students after 1909 and before the completion of their War Service, but were not actually registered till the dates mentioned against their names (see Regulation, JOURNAL, 9th November, 1919).

NOTE.—The asterisk (\*) denotes a Special War Exemption candidate. All the other candidates passed the Special War Exemption.

\*ACKROYD: SAMUEL WILLIAM [S., 1912].

\*ADDEY: FREDERICK ARNOLD, P.A.S.I. [S., 1913].

\*ALLISON: WILLIAM, P.A.S.I. [S., 1911].

ALLUM: STANLEY CHARLES.

\*ASHENDEN: HAROLD CAMPBELL, M.C. F.S.I. [S., 1912].

\*ASHMAN: HERBERT WILLIAM [S., 1913].

\*ASLIN: CHARLES HERBERT [S., 1913].

\*BATTISCOMBE: HUMPHREY [S., 1918].

\*BINNIE: WILLIAM BRYCE [S., 1913].

\*BLACKBURN: NORMAN ARTHUR [S., 1914].

\*BLACKFORD: JOSEPH [S., 1913].

\*BLACKWELL: CHARLES CHRISTIE [S., 1910].

BLAMPFELD: ROY CHARLES.

\*BOYD: JOHN SHAW [S., 1920].

BRADDELL: THOMAS ARTHUR DARCY.

\*BRODIE: ROBERT [S., 1919].

\*BROOKS: CHRISTOPHER JOHN [S., 1919].

\*BROOMHALL: THOMAS HARGREAVES [S., 1910].

BRYCE: ANDREW DOUGLAS.

\*BUCHANAN: ALLAN POLLOCK MCKENZIE [S., 1919].

BURCHETT: HOWARD WILLIAM.

BUTCHER: HENRY FREDERICK.

\*CALDWELL: OLIVER REGINALD [S., 1912].

\*CHING: WILMOT THORNE [S., 1911].

CLAYDON: LIFFORD.

\*CLAYTON: CHARLES LAWRENCE [S., 1912].

\*COLLIN: BERTIE PHILLIPS [S., 1910].

\*CORNISH: CHARLES EDWIN [S., 1913].

\*COTTINGHAM: GARNET REGINALD [S., 1914].

COULSON: RICHARD CARTE.

COUPLAND: WILLIAM VERNON.

\*CRASKE: CLIFFORD WIGG [S., 1911].

\*CROSSLEY: GEORGE [S., 1913].

\*CRICKSHANK: HERBERT WILLIAM.

\*CULLEN: ALEXANDER [S., 1919].

CURTIS: HERBERT LEWIS.

\*DAILEY: ARTHUR BENJAMIN [S., 1910].

\*DODD: RONALD FIELDING [S., 1912].

DOWNER: GEORGE EDWIN.

\*DUNCAN: RONALD AVER [S., 1914].

\*DURNFORD: WILLIAM JOHN [S., 1912].

\*EATON: GEORGE MORLEY, P.A.S.I. [S., 1910].

\*EDWARDS: KENNETH DREW [S., 1912].

\*EMES: JAMES ALBERT [S., 1915].

\*EVANS: HENRY GORONWY [S., 1914].

\*FILDES: GEOFFREY PHILIP [S., 1914].

\*FISHER: HENRY NETTLETON, M.C. [S., 1914].

FURNER: ARTHUR STANLEY.

GARRETT: STANLEY G.

\*GLEN: ALEXANDER GRAHAM [S., 1920].

\*GOODSALL: ROBERT HAROLD [S., 1912].

- \*GOODWIN : HARRY THOMAS [S., 1912].
- \*GORDON : JOSEPH DAVISON [S., 1914].
- \*GORDON : PERCY JAMES [S., 1914].
- \*GOSTLING : WILFRID BERNARD, M.C. [S., 1914].
- GRABHAM : STANLEY, P.A.S.I.
- \*GRANT : JOHN PETER DIPPIE [S., 1913].
- HAIGH : NORMAN CHARLES.
- \*HALL : PERCY EDWARD [S., 1912].
- \*HAMILTON : IAN BOGELL MONTEITH, B.A. Oxon. [S., 1913].
- \*HAMILTON : THOMAS CRESSEY [S., 1913].
- \*HARRIS : WILFRED HENRY, P.A.S.I. [S., 1914].
- \*HENSHALL : LOTIS SYDNEY, D.S.O. [S., 1910].
- \*HERFORD : THEODORE WELBY [S., 1919].
- \*HODGES : JOHN STEWART [S., 1920].
- \*HOLLAND : HARRY [S., 1919].
- \*HOLROYD : FRANK [S., 1912].
- \*HONEYMAN : HERBERT LEWIS [S., 1910].
- \*HOSSACK : JAMES DAVIDSON [S., 1913].
- \*HOUSTON : JAMES [S., 1918].
- \*HOWELL : JOHN ALNUTT [S., 1911].
- \*HUDSON : THOMAS [S., 1912].
- \*INMAN : GORDON HENRY NISBIT [S., 1912].
- \*JACKSON : BURROUGH DE CARLI [S., 1911].
- \*JOHNSON : HENRY ANDREW [S., 1915].
- \*JOHNSON : REGINALD SIDLEY, M.C. [S., 1913].
- \*JONES : SADNLY STEVENSON [S., 1920].
- JONES : WILLIAM GEORGE EDMUND.
- \*KAY : MICHAEL CRICHTON, M.C. [S., 1912].
- \*LAST : FREDERICK BERTRAM [S., 1911].
- \*LEGG : THEODORE ELLIS [S., 1911].
- \*LOCHHEAD : ALFRED GEORGE [S., 1919].
- \*LOTHOUSE : WALLACE GEORGE [S., 1910].
- \*LOVE : ROBERT MACLAREN [S., 1911].
- \*LUTYENS : EADRED JOHN TENNANT [S., 1919].
- \*MCKAY : JOHN ROSS [S., 1912].
- \*MACKAY : SAMUEL ARMSTRONG HURST [S., 1912].
- \*MADDOCK : RICHARD HENRY [S., 1911].
- \*MASON : HAROLD CLAYFORTH [S., 1917].
- \*MILLER : BERNARD ALEXANDER [S., 1914].
- MILLER : ERIC STUART CAMPBELL.
- \*MOORE : JOHN D. [S., 1913].
- MORGAN : ALFRED PERCY.
- \*MORRELL : PERCY, M.B.E. [S., 1919].
- \*MOUNTFORD : EDWARD WALLIS [S., 1911].
- NICHOLSON : THOMAS.
- \*ODOM : JOHN HENRY [S., 1911].
- O'DONOGHUE : RUPERT JOHN GORDON.
- \*PAGE : THOMAS ALEXANDER [S., 1911].
- \*PIDSLEY : WILFRID GOULD [S., 1911].
- \*PRICE : WILLIAM HAROLD [S., 1911].
- \*PRYNNE : SHERARD JOHN HOWARD [S., 1912].
- READ : KENMUIR HARRY.
- REED : WILLIAM JAMES.
- \*RICHARDSON : HERBERT CLIFFORD [S., 1913].
- \*RILEY : RICHARD HOLDEN, P.A.S.I. [S., 1915].
- \*ROBBIS : ARTHUR BEAVER LLEWELLYN [S., 1919].
- ROBINSON : ERIC ORME.
- \*ROUTLEY : LEONARD JAMES [S., 1913].
- \*ST. LIGER : CHARLES DOUGLAS, M.C. [S., 1915].
- SCOTT : THOMAS EDWARD.
- \*SHAW : ROBERT PHILIP [S., 1915].
- \*SHEPHERD : THOMAS SMITH [S., 1914].
- \*SHERWIN : CEIL THOMAS [S., 1910].
- \*SWALLOW : JOSEPH CEDRIC [S., 1912].
- \*SYKES : ALEXANDER RICHARD [S., 1920].
- TASKER : EDWARD CLOUGH.
- \*TEBBUTT : HENRY JIMSON [S., 1913].
- TEMPLE : FREDERICK WILLIAM.
- THRILL : TOM OWEN.
- \*THOMPSON : GEORGE RICHARD, M.C. [S., 1915].
- \*TOOTHILL : JOHN CEDRIC PLISMAN [S., 1910].
- \*TRANMER : FRANK [S., 1912].
- VERNON : FREDERICK AUSTIN.
- \*WARDHILL : REGINALD WILLIAM [S., 1913].

WATERHOUSE : MICHAEL THEODORE, M.C.

- \*WATT : JOHN DESBOROUGH [S., 1912].
- \*WHIMSTER : HENRY NEIL [S., 1913].
- \*WHITE : PERCY GORDON [S., 1911].
- \*WILLIAMS : WILLIAM JOHN VAUGHAN, M.C. [S., 1911].
- \*WILLIAMSON : FREDERICK [S., 1911].
- \*WILSON : ARTHUR [S., 1913].
- \*WILSON : ROBERT, JR. [S., 1914].
- \*WINDER : ARTHUR MAYALL [S., 1911].
- \*WOOD : JAMES [S., 1913].
- \*WOOD : ORMOND PHILIP [S., 1916].
- \*WYATT : PHILIP HUMPHRY, O.B.E. [S., 1910].
- \*WYLLIE : EDWARD GRIGG, M.C., Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Roumania [S., 1920].

YOUNG : JAMES REID.

The Scrutineers' Reports giving the results of the annual elections were read, and the Chairman declared the Officers, Council, and Standing Committees duly elected in accordance therewith.

On the motion of the Chairman a Vote of Thanks to the Scrutineers for their labours in examining the voting papers and counting the votes was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Delissa Joseph [F.] having asked what steps the Council had taken to carry out the request unanimously made by members at the Annual General Meeting for the calling of a Public Meeting to protest against the proposed application of the Luxury clauses of the Housing Act and to arrange for a deputation to the Prime Minister thereon, the Chairman replied that the Council had that afternoon appointed a Committee to carry out the mandate of the General Body, that it was the intention that the Committee should get to work at once and arrange a plan of campaign, and that this would be communicated to the General Body at the earliest possible date.

The Hon. Secretary announced that the Meeting for the Presentation of the Royal Gold Medal had been postponed till later in the year and that the new date would be notified to members in due course.

The proceedings closed at 8.45.

## NOTICES.

### Peace Day Celebrations.

Members of the Institute (Hon. Members, Fellows, Associates, Licentiates, Students and Probationers) and their Ladies are invited to the RECEPTION AND GARDEN PARTY in honour of returned Service Men, to be held by the President and Council at the Zoological Gardens on Tuesday, 29th June. Applications for Tickets, specifying whether ladies' tickets are also required, should be made to the Secretary R.I.B.A. as soon as possible.

Dress : Morning Dress, Working Dress or Uniform.

It is hoped that all ex-Service men will make a special effort to be present on this occasion.

There will be no charge for tickets.

### The Royal Gold Medal, 1920

The Presentation of the Royal Gold Medal, originally fixed for Monday, 21st June, has been postponed till later in the year, when it is hoped that M. Grault will be present to receive the Medal in person. The new date cannot yet be fixed, but full notice will be given as soon as definite arrangements are made.

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Will ARCHITECT R.I.B.A. who advertises in the last issue that he wants a London address, kindly send his name to the Editor JOURNAL R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street.





WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: THE ALTAR. LADY CHAPEL.

## WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL.

By H. HEATHCOTE STATHAM [*F.*].

THE announcement of the publication of an important book on Westminster Cathedral and its architect, by an author with a French name, led a good many people, as well as the present writer, to suppose that this was a work on the Cathedral by a French architect ; which would no doubt have been an event of great interest to English architects and architectural critics. In fact, as it turned out, "Winifride de l'Hôpital," whose name as author appears thus on the title-page, is the late Mr. Bentley's married daughter ; so that instead of embodying the analysis and criticism of a foreign architect, the book\* is an amateur treatise by a lady who has the twofold interest in her subject, arising from consanguinity with the late gifted architect of the Cathedral, and from the feelings of (obviously) a devout and devoted Catholic. To say this is not to imply any lessening of one's interest in the book on that account. In some senses the effect is, perhaps, the opposite ; only it must be regarded from a different point of view from that of a purely architectural treatise, and allowance must be made for some natural and more than pardonable excess of enthusiasm here and there. But in the main, the book is admirably done ; the authoress is in a position to give us intimate and reliable information as to facts, and its publication forms an opportunity for a renewed consideration of this remarkable example of modern architecture. It may be as well to say at once, however, that the present writer's interest in the building is purely architectural, and is in no way concerned with the idea of its forming a centre and an engine for what is called (with unconscious irony) "the conversion of England."

The present site of the Cathedral was not the first one contemplated ; there appear to have been, as far as we can follow out the history, the narration of which is rather complicated, two sites successively proposed, one of which was actually purchased, and subsequently re-sold. For what may be called the penultimate site, Mr. Clutton, who had, in the earlier stages of the undertaking, been the architect consulted, prepared a design (his fourth effort) for a large cathedral in Early Pointed style, 412 ft. in length and 140 ft. across the nave and four aisles ; a scheme the extent and cost of which seems at the time to have frightened subscribers. A promise from a generous donor, on condition that his name should never be made public, seemed to raise better hopes, and decided Cardinal Manning to

\* *Westminster Cathedral and its Architect*. By Winifride de l'Hôpital. With an Introduction by Professor W. R. Lethaby, F.R.I.B.A. With 160 illustrations. London : Hutchinson & Co.

exchange the previously proposed site for one "in a more open and splendid position." This was the site on which stood the County Prison of Tothill Fields; and the Cardinal sent for his solicitor, Mr. Blount, and, taking him to a window from which the prison site could be seen, said briefly "That land is for sale, I wish you to buy it for me," the *modus operandi* being left to the solicitor's judgment and resource. The site has a long and curious history. It was originally, like the site of Westminster Abbey, marsh land, a great part of it being at times actually under water. It is related that in the reign of Henry III. the site was dry land, and the then abbot of Westminster obtained the Royal sanction to keep a fair every year on the land for three days, and this fair was held on the actual site of the present cathedral. There must have been a great deal of building carried on around the site since the date of the Cardinal's purchase, or it is impossible to understand how it could be regarded as "in an open and splendid position," since the cathedral is so shut in by blocks of street houses that from the great public thoroughfare of Victoria Street there is not a hint of its existence, except for the top of the tower peering above the houses. It would be a splendid site, no doubt, if opened out to Victoria Street, but as it is, it is a very confined site for a great church, and no really comprehensive view of it can be obtained.

Matters having got this far, and a site finally decided on and secured, in 1882 came the question of the choice of an architect, about which there seems to have been a good deal of heart-burning, various architects of the Catholic Communion (for it may be assumed that none outside that communion could well be employed) being desirous that there should be an architectural competition for the erection of the best design. Bentley's action prevented this very doubtful course. His name and work were already very favourably known to the ecclesiastical authorities connected with the scheme, and when asked if he would compete he gave a decisive "No"; he did not approve of competitions nor of seeking work in any way, the work was to seek him. His decisive attitude had the double advantage of raising still higher the standard of personal respect for him, and of securing for the work undoubtedly the man best fitted to carry it out. It was felt that no competition could have any result which would compensate for the loss of Bentley, and he was appointed without competition. It is not to be supposed for a moment that his refusal to compete was a matter of policy; Bentley, from everything one can learn about him, was obviously one of the most highminded and unselfish of men.

The choice of the architect being thus fortunately settled, the next question was, we will not say what style should be adopted for the building (a crude way of putting it which we are now happily emerging from), but what should the architect aim at in the character and effect of the new cathedral. Now Bentley's reputation as a church architect had been hitherto based on churches in the accepted modern Gothic style, and the ecclesiastical authorities in the matter were (very wisely) unwilling to risk comparisons between a modern Gothic cathedral and the mediæval Gothic of the neighbouring Westminster Abbey. Bentley, who would himself have preferred a Gothic cathedral, seems to have admitted the force of this reasoning, but he was strongly opposed to the Cardinal's desire for a Basilica church of the Italian type, and eventually this desire was abandoned, and the choice of both the ecclesiastics and their architect coalesced in favour of "the Christian Byzantine style." There may be something to be said for either alternative. A Basilica church on the largest scale would have been a grand thing in itself, and would have had interesting associations with the character of the early churches of Rome. But this association might have been felt to be too local; the Byzantine influence, which for several centuries made itself felt in outlying parts of Italy and France, as well as in what may be called its original home in Constantinople, was more cosmopolitan than the Italian Basilica style. And the latter, though eminently dignified in an architectural sense, lacks the elements of mystery and of aspiration which belong to the Byzantine type of architecture; it is comparatively cold in effect and does not admit of the same richness of decorative treatment. In a practical sense, as regards suitability for congregational worship, there is indeed little to choose between the Basilica type of plan and the one actually adopted at Westminster: and the argument used, that "the exceptionally wide nave,

unimpeded by columns or screen, was without question the best suited to the congregational needs of a metropolitan cathedral," is one which would equally have applied to a Basilica plan, since the columns in the latter do not interfere with the wide central space. Another very far-seeing reason given for the adoption of the Byzantine type of church, which probably many people do not suspect, is that as the Byzantine type of architecture is essentially an architecture of massive walls forming the backing to an applied marble decoration, it would be possible thus to build the walls and roof *en masse* at once, and cover in the building, leaving their decorative finish for a future date, and a future expenditure. For all these reasons the Byzantine type of architecture was decided on, with the fortunate result, in an architectural sense, that we have in London an immense building illustrating a type of architecture of which there is no example on the same scale in England; to the interest of artists and the bewilderment of the average English public. For to the average Englishman anything in architecture which is different from what he is accustomed to see is at once labelled as "ugly"; when the cathedral was half-finished a violent letter from an inhabitant of one of the houses in the vicinity was published in an evening paper, protesting against "the monstrosity which is being erected in our midst," or words to that effect; and the average English newspaper faithfully reflects the stupidity, in such matters, of the average Englishman. If you see in an English daily paper a description of some new building as being a disgrace to the neighbourhood on account of its ugliness, you may be pretty sure to find that it is a building of some architectural interest and originality.

Having decided on the prevailing style or character for the new Cathedral, Bentley set out, as soon as he could conveniently arrange for a lengthened absence, on a tour of inspection of ancient churches, mainly in Italy. It was the best and most sensible preparation an architect could possibly have made for the carrying out of a great church at home; a mission calculated to inspire the imagination, to fill the mind with new ideas, and to afford, moreover, the opportunity of studying the actual results, in existing buildings, of various principles of treatment on a large scale. The few records given in the book of his opinions on various buildings are of interest. Milan Cathedral, over which he was conducted by an enthusiastic local *cicerone*, caused him (as may be supposed) a difficulty in polite reticence. St. Ambrogio was much more sympathetic to his soul; and from Pisa it is concluded, with probability, that he adopted the system of continuing the arcade of the gallery in an unbroken line across the transept opening. He never liked, we are told, "the break in the continuity of line caused by open transepts." But that surely depends on the nature of the plan adopted. In a plan with a large central dome the open arches of the transepts are almost a necessity of the effect. The importance of continuity of line belongs to a different order of plan. Florence Cathedral he drastically notices as "architecturally the worst large building I have ever seen," though he seems to have excepted the Campanile from this perhaps not too harsh judgment. St. Peter's is also "the worst large building, excepting, perhaps, the Duomo at Florence." He adds, "of course, the effect is fine, very fine, but produced at the sacrifice of scale." Exactly; that is just what the ordinary visitor never realises; the scale of the details is all wrong. But surely Bentley might have found a word of praise for that glorious dome—glorious in its exterior lines at all events. The visit to Ravenna furnishes an interesting anecdote:—

The atmosphere of the long-past ages of the great period of Ravenna's constructive activity into which he seemed to be transported was expressed by the man who drove him out to St. Apollinare in Classe—supremely reverent for the churches and tombs of those far-away centuries, his scorn for the later productions was withering. The architect, as they drove along, was carrying on a conversation as well as his rather halting Italian would permit, and, pointing out a church near the road, inquired its name. "Ah! Signor," came the reply, "that would not interest you; it is not worth your while—it is quite modern." A further question elicited that it dated from the eleventh century!

The three plans kindly lent to us by the publisher are of interest as showing the gradual development of the plan to its present form. In Fig. 1 the third dome from the entrance end is emphasised by the contiguity of the large open transepts with aspidal terminations, which would have had a fine effect, in spite of the architect's dislike to the interruption of the vista by these wide open spaces.

But as this is not a plan with one main central cupola, but a long plan roofed by a succession of four cupolas of equal size, there seemed no sufficient reason for thus emphasising the third cupola, where the main scheme of the ground plan does not suggest any special treatment at this point ; accordingly, in the plan, Fig. 2, the wide open transepts are abandoned and the gallery design carried through, as in the final plan, Fig. 3. The principal difference between this and No. 2 consists in the treatment of the entrance front, from which the tower is pushed back, and the front treated symmetrically, with the two octagonal stair turrets flanking the central portion. Bentley had proposed to build two towers, but Cardinal Vaughan said " one is enough for me " ; and he was right. Probably if Bentley's two towers had been built they would have been different in design from, and not so lofty as, the present single one, and they would have formed a symmetrical portion of the entrance front design ; but it may be doubted if they would have had as fine and striking an effect as the present lofty and very beautiful tower. A single tower being determined on, it was a wise judgment to remove it from the west front,\* with the symmetry of which it would have interfered, and build it in an angle position a little further back.

For the practical details as to the construction of the cathedral the reader must be referred to the

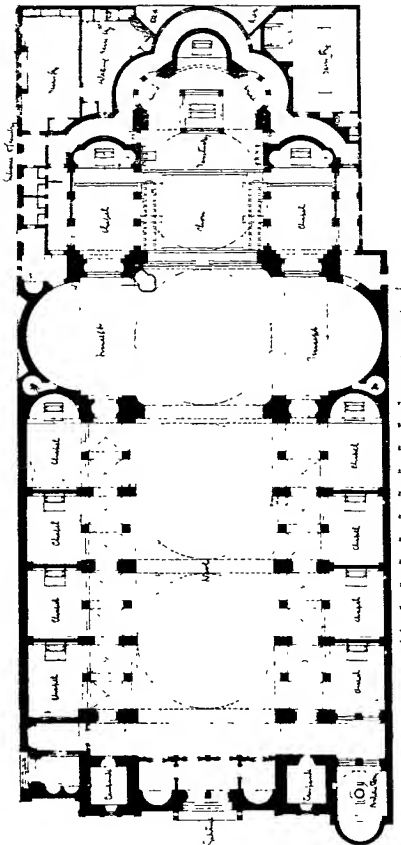


FIG. 1. FIRST SCHEME FOR THE PLAN

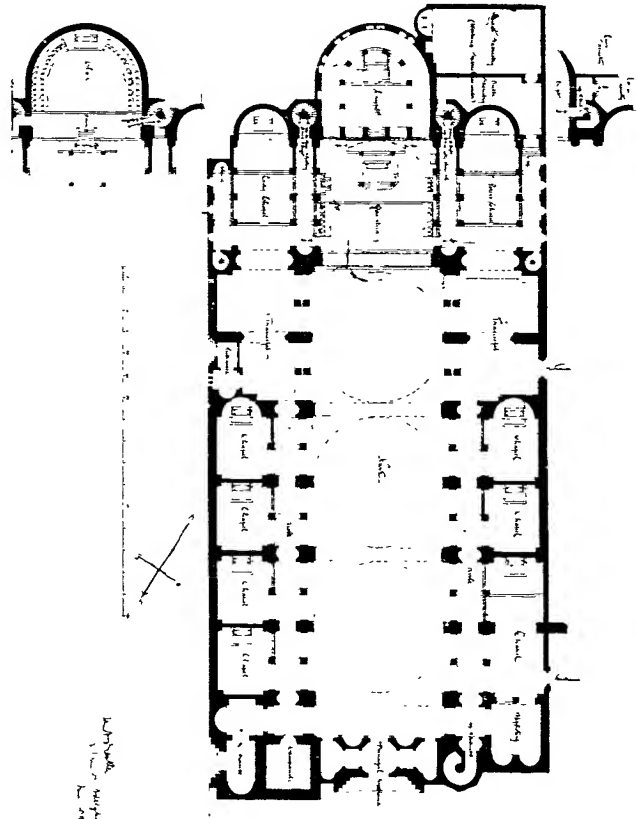


FIG. 2. SECOND SCHEME FOR THE PLAN.

book, as they are far too numerous and elaborate to be quoted to any purpose here, and are in fact chiefly supplied in the book by quotations from Mr. J. A. Marshall's Paper read before the Architectural Association on April 12th, 1907, so that to produce them here, to any useful extent, would merely be

\* The words " west end " and " east end," etc., are used for the sake of clearness in their usual ritual sense, though the church is not really orientated east and west.

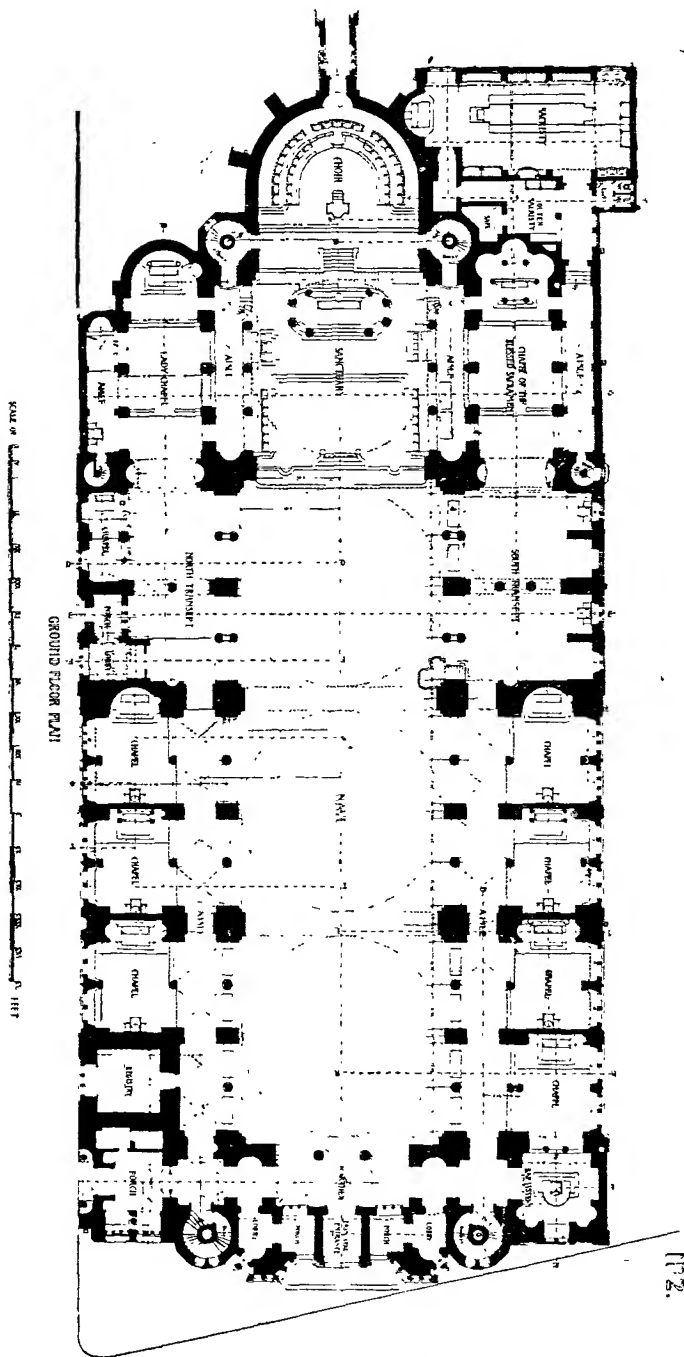


FIG. 3. PLAN AS FINALLY ADOPTED.  
(Larger Scale)

against the consensus of opinion expressed by the engineers. This much I am proud of, for I feel that a service to building has been effected, and that I have disproved and broken the backbone of that terrible superstition, that the use of iron is necessary to long spans." ("Wide spans" he should rather have expressed it.) And everyone who feels that architecture is an art of poetic con-

quotation two-deep. Attention may be drawn, however, to one or two special points. One is the lesson the building itself taught as to the important factor of the age of the cement used, in a building consisting of arch and dome construction on so large a scale. The choir arch, when settled, was found to have risen from the centre on which it had been built by an inch and a half, while the transverse arches across the nave, which are ten feet wider, had only risen half an inch; and this difference was traced to the age of the cement used—nine weeks old in the latter case, as against six weeks old in the former. It was felt that this influence of the expansion of the cement would be still more threatening in the case of the domes, "where there is a body of material 66 feet in diameter and about 700 tons in weight, starting with a thickness of 3 feet and diminishing towards the crown to 13 inches," and it was therefore decreed that no cement should be used until it had been at least thirteen weeks on the site. Disruptive forces attend on the construction as well as on the decay of a great building. It may be noted also that Bentley resisted every temptation to use iron as an essential element of the construction, though we may gather that it was occasionally used on a small scale in the shape of ties. Engineers would no doubt be ready to have pointed out how much trouble and expense would have been saved by the use of iron girders; but where would the majesty of the interior have been then? Bentley, in a letter to Professor Lethaby, expressed his satisfaction that "the old principle of construction is carried on, and that curse of modern construction and source of decay—the use of iron—has been avoided,

ception and expression, and not a mere economic putting together of materials, will sympathise with the feeling here expressed.

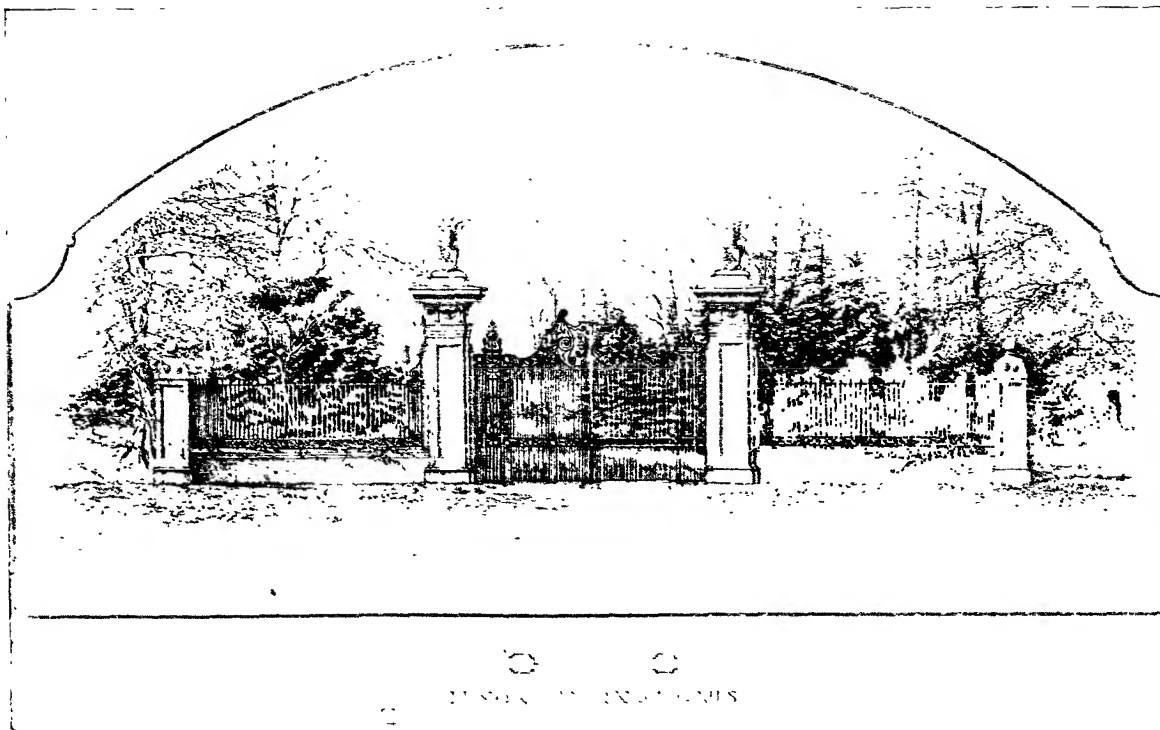
And now, what is the impression produced by the present result of this great structural effort? Taking the interior first, the first impression is that, in view of the ultimate effect contemplated in the completely finished interior, the adoption of a great expanse of wood flooring is a throwing away of a great opportunity; and that, although the wood flooring may go very well with the present masses of brick piers and arches and domes, when (if ever) the piers and arches are cased with marble and the domes decorated in mosaic, the wood floor will have a comparatively mean effect. One may gather that the author of the book has the same feeling. Bentley, it appears, had prepared a grand design for a marble floor, the cost of which was roughly estimated by an English firm at £18,000; an estimate, considering the description of Bentley's design, which was probably a good deal short of the mark, but it seems to have been sufficient to alarm Cardinal Vaughan on the score of economy, although he had himself been pressing the architect for a design for "this splendid floor." It was, perhaps, owing to this alarm about the cost that other reasons were found for objecting to a marble floor; it would be too cold for the feet of the worshippers, and the noise of moving chairs on it would be very disagreeable. This latter objection could surely have been easily overcome by a simple treatment of the feet of the chairs. At any rate, apart from cost, the objections do not seem sufficient to make a case against the scheme, and when the whole interior is veneered in marble it will probably be realised that the effect cannot be complete without a marble floor, though it may have been a point of wisdom to postpone its execution, as it could, of course, be carried out at any time. It may be questioned whether the interior, as ultimately finished, will ever be as striking to the eye and the imagination as it is in its present state. The effect of these great masses of brick piers, and the brick domes over them, is really sublime. The upper portion of the interior looks insufficiently lighted at present; that is because the lighting has been calculated for the finished effect, where it will be quite sufficient; in the meantime, this effect of darkness in the vault perhaps adds to the mystery and solemnity of the interior, which is unequalled in any other building on British ground. And the marble columns, with their varying colours and light-reflecting surfaces, gain immensely by contrast with the dark tone and rough texture of the vast surfaces of brick. Even if it is never finished as intended, or not for a long series of years, we have in the meantime a grand and most impressive interior.

The general lines of the interior perspective completely justify Bentley's determination to carry the columned galleries right through in an unbroken line. In an interior which, though of an ample measured width, is proportionately long and roofed by a succession of domes, the value of a strong horizontal line in binding the whole together is obvious. A wide transept opening could only have been justified by accentuating the dome at that point, making it larger than the others and giving the whole plan a different and more centralised character. Whether all the decorative details, so far as carried out, are equally satisfying may, perhaps, be a question. The variety and beauty, both of design and execution, of the numerous carved capitals, must command general admiration. The inlaid marble walling of the Lady Chapel, graceful and elegant as it is, seems the kind of decoration for secular, rather than sacred walls; apart from its position in the church one might take it for part of the decoration of a large salon or ballroom. The barrel vault of the Lady Chapel is, one supposes, to be ultimately treated in mosaic. And it may be doubted whether the great admiration for the baldachino, implied in the book, will be shared by everyone. It looks rather rigid in line, and the decorative detail is more elaborate than effective. Looking at the screen-wall in front of the sanctuary, as well as at some of the gallery balustrading, one is inclined to suggest that slabs of variegated marble, enclosed in moulded panels, form a kind of decoration of which it is possible to have enough, or a little too much. These are harmless, however, which is more than can be said of the so-called sculpture panels of the Stations of the Cross, fixed up on the sides of many of the piers. By whose approval

these were admitted into the scheme of decoration we are not told. Considered as sculpture they are merely grotesque.

A consideration of the exterior reminds one a little of Michelangelo's remark on San Gallo's model for St. Peter's, " You will find plenty of pasture there," a left-handed compliment whereby the great master really intended to imply that his rival's design was too much cut up into small parts. It is very interesting to go round a building where you come at every turn on a new fancy in detail, and many will feel that this variety constitutes great part of the charm of the building. On the other hand, it might be urged that this multifariousness, if one may use the expression, is carried a little too far ; that the whole, to use a commonplace but expressive phrase, needs " pulling together " a little. The entrance doorway, with its surroundings, rather wants repose ; there is too much detail, and the portrait medallions, looking as if they were tied on to and hung between the columns, have not a very happy effect. In going round the church there is indeed beautiful and interesting detail to be come upon at every turn, and the tower is really fine ; but as a whole the exterior does not rise to the dignity of the interior. Inside, the church is sublime ; outside, it seems rather to merit the praise of being picturesque.

Taken altogether, however, it is a great and original architectural monument, the offspring of a genuine architectural enthusiasm, and forms a grand temple devoted to the service of religion. Whether ultimately it may come to be the temple of a more intellectual and spiritual form of Christian worship, must be left to future generations to discover.



JANPER SALWEY A. M. et del.

DESIGN FOR ENTRANCE GATES, WALLINGTON PARK, NORTHUMBERLAND.

[From the Author's Pencil Drawing]



## JEAN LOUIS PASCAL.

*Membre de l'Institut de France, Royal Gold Medallist.*

### An Old Pupil's Appreciation.

A great man and a great architect has passed away, and many architects in different countries throughout Europe and America who read the notice of his death will feel themselves the poorer.

I have been asked to write a few words of personal appreciation, and while regretting that I cannot speak of his work, except as his pupil, I gladly avail myself of the opportunity of paying my tribute to one to whom, as my Professor for nearly three years, and my friend for over forty years, I feel I owe much that can only be repaid by the way in which I endeavour to meet my responsibilities as an architect—a poor return, but I feel he would not have had me put it otherwise.

It was in the latter half of 1877 that I first had the honour of meeting M. Pascal. He had just succeeded Lefuel as Chief Inspector on the building for the completion of the Louvre. I was but a boy, and perhaps even younger than my years, but I will never forget the sight of the short, well-built man, his coat off, and a cigar in his mouth, who rose from his desk and advanced to meet us, as one of his assistants led us up the long and lofty gallery, which formed his office in the new buildings, to present our letter of introduction from his former pupil Phéné Spiers. His fine, intellectual head with his rather long black hair and keen though kindly eyes, and his beautiful courtesy as he greeted my father in perfect English as a brother artist, immediately won my admiration, and I felt that he was just the type of man one would expect to create such work as I had seen and delighted in on my arrival in Paris; and one under whom it would be a privilege to study. To me he seemed then, and I still believe he was, the ideal type of architect, eminently sympathetic, breathing efficiency, and prepared to spend himself in understanding the needs of his day and generation, and giving them artistic expression.

In the atelier it did not seem to take him an instant to realise the possibilities of any sketch that his pupil might put before him, and he always left us either happily convinced that our sketch was not worth further trouble, or with our eyes opened to artistic possibilities in it of which we had not dreamed, giving us courage to go through the days and nights required to make the finished drawings. He had a wonderful power of accepting the conception of his pupil and helping him to develop it in his own way, a power which explained to me later the catholicity of his judgment when on visiting us in Scotland, and later in London, at his request I took him round the later architectural work.

Naturally, as a very junior student I did not at first see or hear about the work that he was doing. He never talked about it or brought it into conver-

sation in the atelier; but later on, as I got to know it, it seemed to me very different from the work then being done by other architects in France. There was no attempt at novelty for the sake of novelty, no conscious individuality. It seemed to rise from a simple plan bearing little evidence of ingenuity, but it had an element of distinction and calm which made one feel, the more familiar one became with it, that it was a piece of splendid sculpture, eminently suited to its purpose. I realised later that such a result could only be attained by genius and hard work.

The last time I saw M. Pascal was on my way to the East in the spring of last year. Always a lonely man, he was in bad health, and having lost several relations and many friends and professional colleagues in the War, was feeling his solitude very keenly, and though he said that my visit had given him courage he insisted on saying "*Adieu*," he would not see me again. "No, no," I said, "not *Adieu*! *Au revoir*!" and repeated it as I left him. But the last word I heard from him was "*Adieu*."

A splendid kindly soul, his death is his gain. To us he has left a legacy of good work well done—the memory of a generous spirit, ever ready to advise and help, a loyal friend, and to me one of whose like I shall never see again. *R.I.P.*

JOHN J. BURNET [F.].

10th June 1920.

Jean Louis Pascal was born in Paris on the 4th June, 1837. At about the age of sixteen he became a pupil of Gilbert, and later entered the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and the atelier of Questel, where he had as fellow-student, and thereafter life-long friend, the late R. Phéné Spiers. His early student honours included the second and the first Prix Rougeoin, the Prix Abel Blouet, and the Grande Médaille d'Emulation. He won a "*loge*" seven times, the second Grand Prix twice, and finally the Grand Prix itself. From 1866 to 1870 he was at the Villa Medici. On his return from Rome he was appointed Auditor to the Conseil Général des Bâtiments civils, and Inspector of Works under Lefuel and the Tuileries. He became Patron of his atelier in 1872, was appointed Assessor in public competitions, became Vice-President of the Conseil Général, Member of the Council of the Beaux-Arts and President of the Jury, and also President of the Jury of the Salon, becoming finally Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur, Officier de l'Instruction Publique, Membre de l'Institut de France, and Inspector-General of Civil Buildings.

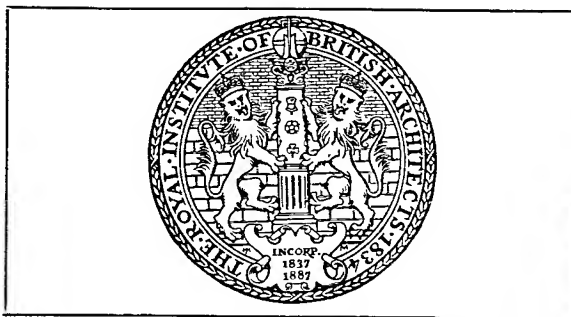
Numerous illustrations of M. Pascal's architectural work were given in the JOURNAL [27th June 1914] on the occasion of the presentation to him of the Royal Gold Medal. M. Pascal, then in his seventy-ninth year, was unable to make the journey to London, but sent an interesting address, which was read to the meeting by M. Roux, secretary to the French Embassy, and which recalled memories of his early visits to London, the first in 1851, and meetings with archi-

fects whose names have since become household words among us—Ashpitel, Owen Jones, Digby Wyatt, Barry, Pugin, Alfred Stevens, Donaldson, Cockerell, Penrose, Alfred Waterhouse, etc.

Sir Reginald Blomfield, in his address at the presentation to M. Pascal, characterised his architecture as "marked by fastidious scholarship, the distinction and simplicity of manner which is the fit expression of a natural genius for architecture, guided by profound knowledge." Many memorial monuments figure among his purely artistic work, such as the monument to Colonel d'Argy at Rome, Bishop's tomb at the Chapel of La Rochelle, monument to Henri Regnault at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts (in collaboration with Coquart), monuments to Michelet (in the Père-Lachaise), President Carnot (at Bordeaux), Victor Hugo and Charles Garnier (at Paris), and a mausoleum at the cemetery of Montparnasse. Among his buildings are the Château du Doux, Altiliac, Corrèze; Faculté de Médecine, Bordeaux; Maison de Bougereau; School and "Mairie," Ablon; apartment houses in the Boulevard Saint-Germain (No. 197) and Rue Notre-Dame-des-Champs; houses in the Rue de Prony (No. 12) and Boulevard de Courcelles (No. 78); house and atelier of the painter Perrault, Boulevard Cannes (No. 43); house in the Boulevard Flandrin; Villa Renouard, Pau; château and estate, Zaral-le-Doux, near Beaulieu; château at Clairefontaine; buildings for the Bank of France; works at the Italian Theatre, at Valence, at Avignon, and at the Bibliothèque Nationale.

The atelier of which M. Pascal was patron dates back 120 years. From M. Delespine (1800-1825), it was successively under the guidance of Blouet, Dubau, Gilbert, and Questel. M. Pascal succeeded in 1872, and his pupils are to be found in every country in Europe, in the United States, and in Canada. Among them are Sir John J. Burnet, R.S.A., LL.D. [*F.*] (who pays tribute to the master in the current issue), Mr. A. N. Paterson, A.R.S.A. [*F.*], Mr. John Keppie, A.R.S.A. [*F.*], Mr. Arthur J. Davis [*F.*] and his late partner, M. Mewès; Mr. Paul Cret, Mr. W. B. Bigelow and Mr. Thomas Hastings, of New York, and Mr. Guy Lowell, of Philadelphia; Signor Luca Beltrami [*Hon. Corr. M.*, Milan], etc. M. Henri P. Nènot [*Royal Gold Medallist* and *Hon. Corr. M.*, Paris], architect of the Sorbonne, and M. Cassieu-Bernard, architect (with M. Cousin) of the Pont Alexandre III., and M. Eugène Duquesne (Grand Prix de Rome, 1897) were among his French pupils.

M. Pascal was associated with M. Guadet in the production of the splendid edition of Blondel's *Architecture Française*, published under the auspices of the French Government. His portrait appears as the frontispiece to Vol. XXI. of the Institute JOURNAL.



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 26th June 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### R.I.B.A. Roll of Honour.

- PIERCE, ARTHUR PATRICK HECTOR [*Associate*] (Auckland). Served with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in Egypt; died in October, 1918.
- HUTTON, LORNE DE H., 2nd Lieut., Machine Gun Corps [*Assoc.*]. Killed in action, March, 1918.
- FOSTER, LEONARD, Lieut., West Yorks Regt. [*Student*]. Died of wounds, August, 1916.
- COLLINS, SYDNEY T. [*Probationer*]. Died of wounds in France, September, 1918.
- JONES, Corporal A. D., R.E., [*Student*]. Died of dysentery, 22nd December, 1919; served three years in Salonika.

### The Final Examination and the "Recognised" Schools

The attention of all who are interested in the progress of architectural education and the proper training of architects is drawn to the important decision come to by the Council at their last meeting to exempt from the Final Examination—with the exception of the Professional Practice side—students who have passed the five years' Diploma or Degree course provided by "recognised" Schools and approved by the Council. The terms of the resolution are set out on another page under "Proceedings of the Council." This step has been taken on the recommendation of the Board of Architectural Education, and is putting into practice Mr. Waterhouse's views—his own individual views, as he explained—in his epoch-making Paper on "The Future of Architectural Education" read before the Institute on the 16th February last (JOURNAL, 21st Feb.) Up to the present, Schools have only been "recognised" up to the level of the Intermediate Examination, and it has been difficult to induce students to take a longer school course because it has not led directly to the Final Examination. By recognising the Schools' Diploma or Degree in lieu of part of the Final Examination, students will be given a direct incentive to continue their work in those Schools.

### Stoppage of Building.

The Council of the Royal Institute has been requested to hold an enquiry into the effect of the stoppage of building works throughout the country under Section 5 of the Housing Act of 1919. It is therefore desirous of obtaining information relating

thereto. Building owners, architects, and others engaged in building operations are asked to furnish the Secretary of the R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1. with information in writing as soon as possible as to :

- (a) Buildings which have been stopped during progress,
  - (b) Buildings as to which warning notices have been issued.
  - (c) Buildings which have been prohibited from starting,
- under the following heads :
1. The nature of the building so stopped.
  2. The cost of such building.
  3. The approximate number of men employed in the various trades on such buildings.
  4. Any information as to buildings which have been allowed to proceed subject to the substitution of other materials for those originally intended.
- Any other information of value will be greatly appreciated.

**"Luxury Building" : Glasgow Corporation's Prohibition Orders : Appeal Tribunal's Decision against Corporation.**

The Appeal Tribunal appointed by the Scottish Board of Health under the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, has delivered judgment allowing all the appeals and annulling the nine orders which had been issued by the Glasgow Corporation prohibiting work being proceeded with in connection with cinema theatres. Extracts from the judgment are appended as far as space permits ; the judgment is printed in full in the *Glasgow Herald* for 7th June.

The Tribunal, in its judgment, states that it (the Tribunal) was created by the statute to safeguard the interests of others than those carrying out the housing schemes of local authorities. A statute conferring powers of restricting trade or industry is to be strictly construed against those operating such restrictions. The duty laid upon a local authority is to have regard to the relative public importance of all building operations ; it is not the intention of the statute that the interests of many sections of the building trade should by prohibition be sacrificed to the interests of one section, unless there is no other way, after every effort has been made to find it, of accomplishing the house building. The principle involved is vastly more important than the paltry question whether these particular cinema houses should be built. The power conferred upon the local authority is the regulation of building work, not its indiscriminate prohibition. The statute lays upon the authority the duty of considering the relative "public importance" of all the various kinds of building operations in the city, and in the opinion of the Tribunal the Corporation have failed to appreciate the breadth of meaning of this statutory term "public importance." The provision of dwelling-houses is of course of vast public importance ; but it is of not less public importance that freedom in industry should be maintained. It is of public importance undoubtedly that people who are homeless should be provided with dwelling accommodation, but it is also of public importance that building trade operatives of many classes who are not required for the limited operations of house building should not have their area of employment unnecessarily closed or restricted.

The Tribunal is of opinion that under this statute a local authority has no right at all to make prohibitory orders without having first discharged the primary obligation of making the most searching inquiry as to the necessity for

making an order. This primary obligation infers the duty of conference with all parties whom an order may affect. No discussion seems to have taken place between Corporation officials with skilled knowledge of the building industry on the one hand, and the architects and builders concerned with the proposed cinema buildings on the other hand, as to whether, and to what extent, there might be competition between the cinema building and the house building ; and whether if such competition was likely it was not possible for the cinema architects or builders to make concessions or alterations as regards material proposed to be used, or methods of construction to be employed, which would remove, or reduce to negligible dimensions, any likely competition for material or men between the two classes of buildings.

The single purpose of the very exceptional powers of the statute is to draw men to build dwelling-houses, and the prohibitory orders in question have apparently been made upon the assumption that if workmen are prevented building these cinema houses they will necessarily be available to build respondents' dwelling-houses. But there is no evidence to warrant this assumption. It is open to all operatives in the building trade to go to the house building contractors now, if they are patriotically desirous of assisting to build houses ; but apparently they do not go voluntarily, and there is nothing to show that if men are debarred from cinema work they will go to the housing work. It is quite as likely that they would go to the city building work other than houses—perhaps proportionately more likely, for building work other than housing is something like 75 per cent. of the whole building work of the city. There must be more than a mere hope that preventing men building other erections will result in more men for houses ; there must be a reasonable likelihood that it will be so, and that likelihood appears to be somewhat remote as regards these cinemas, most of the labour required for which is different in character from that required for dwelling-houses.

The Tribunal's opinion as to the scope and intention of Section 5 (1) of the Act is—first, that the seriousness of the prohibitory power of Section 5 (1) makes it obligatory upon a local authority, before exercising the power, to exhaust every possible means of avoiding interference with normal freedom of an industry so complex and of such national importance as the building trade ; secondly, that the statute warrants a prohibitory order only as a last resort, the most essential elements in avoiding the necessity for it being (a) conference between the practical men who are concerned with the erection of different classes of buildings, and (b) the adoption of methods of placing contracts for house building which will encourage the distribution of work and the drawing of labour to house building. The Corporation, having disregarded those primary statutory obligations, were barred from making prohibitory orders under Section 5 (1).

**Another Housing Bill.**

It is announced that the Government have another Housing Bill on the stocks. The new measure, which is in draft, and will be introduced in a few days' time, will give the Ministry of Health power to stop luxury building and to seize empty houses. The Government have found that their powers under both these heads are inadequate.

**Scale of Fees for Housing.**

The Council of the Royal Institute desire to call the attention of members to the fact that it is the duty of all members of the Institute to adhere to the Scale of Fees for Housing Schemes which has been agreed upon by the R.I.B.A. in consultation with the Ministry

of Health, and that no member should agree to accept a lower scale of payment without having first communicated with the Royal Institute. The scale referred to is set out in Clause 9 of the Scale of Professional Charges.

#### The Unification Committee.

The Committee representative of the whole profession which it was decided at the Special General Meeting of the 22nd March should be formed for the purpose of preparing a comprehensive scheme for the unification and registration of the profession, has now been constituted in accordance with the mandate of the General Body. The Committee consists of the following members:—

CHAIRMAN: The President, Mr. John W. Simpson.

PAST-PRESIDENTS: Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., K.C.V.O., C.B.; Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Litt.D.

(A) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE R.I.B.A.:—

8 *Fellows*.—Sir Banister Fletcher, Mr. Paul Waterhouse, F.S.A., Mr. C. Stanley Peach, Mr. A. W. S. Cross, Mr. Arthur Keen, Mr. E. Stanley Hall, Major Harry Barnes, M.P., Mr. James S. Gibson.

7 *Associates*.—Mr. Horace Cubitt, Mr. Herbert A. Welch, Mr. K. Gammell, Mr. W. R. Davidge, Mr. Digby L. Solomon, Mr. G. Leonard Elkington, Mr. P. W. Hubbard.  
7 *Licentiate*s.—Mr. H. Ascroft, Mr. H. R. Bird, Mr. George Carter, Mr. A. J. Penty, Mr. Francis R. Taylor, Mr. Samuel Taylor, Mr. J. E. Yerbury.

(B) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ALLIED SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM:—

1. The Aberdeen Society of Architects.—
2. Birmingham Architectural Association.—Mr. H. T. Buckland [F.].
3. Bristol Society of Architects.—Mr. G. C. Lawrence [A.].
4. Devon and Exeter Architectural Society.—Mr. Lewis F. Tonar [Licentiate].
5. Dundee Institute of Architects.—Mr. A. Granger Heiton.
6. Edinburgh Architectural Association.—Mr. W. T. Oldrieve [F.].
7. Glasgow Institute of Architects.—Mr. Wm. B. Whitie [F.].
8. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Association of Architects.—Mr. J. B. Healing [A.].
9. Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland.—Mr. Lucius O'Callaghan.
10. Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society.—Mr. W. Carby Hall [F.].
11. Leicester and Leicestershire Society of Architects.—Mr. A. H. Hind [F.].
12. Liverpool Architectural Society.—Mr. T. Taliesin Rees [F.].
13. Manchester Society of Architects.—Mr. A. W. Hennings [F.].
14. Northamptonshire Association of Architects.—Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, F.S.A. [F.].
15. Northern Architectural Association.—Mr. C. S. Errington [F.].
16. Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society.—Mr. H. G. Watkins [F.].
17. Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Architectural Society.—Mr. C. B. Flockton [F.].
18. South Wales Institute of Architects.—Mr. Ivor Jones [A.].
19. York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society.—Mr. L. Kitchen [F.].
20. The Institute of Scottish Architects.

(C) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ALLIED SOCIETIES IN THE DOMINIONS:—

Africa: Mr. Herbert Baker [F.].  
Australia: Major H. C. Corlette, O.B.E., R.B.C. [F.].  
Canada: Mr. Andrew T. Taylor [F.].  
New Zealand: Mr. S. Hurst Seager [F.].

(D) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION (LONDON).—Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C. [F.]; Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A. [F.].

(E) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.—Mr. Edwin J. Sadgrove [F.]; Sir Charles T. Ruthen, O.B.E. [F.]; Mr. A. Burnett Brown; Mr. George H. Paine; Mr. Noel D. Sheffield; Mr. Edwin J. Partridge; Mr. C. McArthur Butler.

(F) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARCHITECTS' AND SURVEYORS' ASSISTANTS' PROFESSIONAL UNION.—Mr. R. G. Llewellyn-Evans; Mr. Chas. McLachlan [A.].

(G) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OFFICIAL ARCHITECTS' ASSOCIATION.—Mr. W. E. Riley [F.]; Mr. Sydney Perks, F.S.A. [F.].

(H) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ULSTER SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.—Mr. N. Fitzsimons [F.].

(I) REPRESENTATIVES OF ARCHITECTS UNATTACHED TO ANY PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATION.—Mr. G. E. Marshall (Liverpool); Mr. A. H. Mooring Aldridge (Bournemouth); Mr. A. M. Cawthorne (London).

#### Building Trade Wages.

In *The Times* of the 17th inst. it was stated that contractors are prepared to compete for the available labour in the building trade by offering higher payment for it. Mr. Arthur Keen, Hon. Sec. R.I.B.A., in a letter in *The Times* of the 18th, pointed out that "the reason is not far to seek. It is that the increased payment comes, not out of the contractor's pocket, but out of that of his employer, the building owner. The contract is no longer an agreement to carry out specified work for a definite sum of money; it provides either for the execution of the work at a certain rate of profit on the actual cost, or for the payment of a sum which is to be adjusted in the settlement of accounts to agree with any increase that may take place in the cost of labour or material. The obvious result is that contractors have no interest in resisting claims for increased payment—indeed, their interest is often the other way, because their profit increases with the cost of the work. The system is thoroughly bad, but there seems to be no alternative to it under existing conditions. Probably the best form of contract is that which provides for a lump sum profit, to be increased if the work is done for less than the estimated cost and reduced if this cost is exceeded. Unfortunately, the drawback to it is that the easiest way to reduce the cost of work is to reduce the quality."

#### Height of Rooms in New Houses.

Replying to a deputation of London members of Parliament and members of the London County Council, who urged objections to the reduction of the height of rooms in the housing schemes from 8 feet 6 inches to 8 feet, Dr. Addison said that by a saving of 6 inches in the height they would gain an equivalent of 20 cubic feet of floor space. The question of the height of a room was immaterial in respect to ventilation in houses where windows were made to open.

He was quite prepared to make exceptions in crowded areas, and would willingly discuss any such proposals with representatives of the Council.

#### The City Churches.

The London Diocesan Conference, at its resumed sitting at the Church House, Westminster, on the 17th inst., when the Bishop of London presided, approved the first part of a resolution moved by Canon Masterman (Rector of St. Mary-le-Bow), to the effect that the Conference recognised the pressing need for such a re-arrangement of the City parishes as would enable the resources of the City churches to be used to greater advantage for the spiritual life of London.

The Conference rejected by large majorities the remaining clauses of the motion, to the effect that the Conference considered that (a) the number of churches that it was proposed should be demolished was considerably larger than the circumstances of the case could justify; (b) the formation of four large parishes was too violent a break in the historical continuity of the ecclesiastical life of the City; (c) the administration of the surplus funds should be entrusted to an *ad hoc* committee, on which City interests should be adequately represented, and in view of possible changes in the future, the capital sum should be kept intact, only the income being expended.

Professor Beresford Pire [F.], who appealed for the condemned churches as an architect on æsthetic grounds, moved an amendment expressing disapproval of "any further secularisation of consecrated buildings and sites within the area of the City of London." He was supported by Mr. Basil Holmes. The amendment was rejected.

The Society of Antiquaries have passed the following protest:—

The publication of the report of the Bishop of London's Commission on the City Churches, recommending the disuse and complete or partial demolition of no less than nineteen churches, of which thirteen are the work of Sir Christopher Wren, has created a situation which demands the closest scrutiny.

The Society of Antiquaries of London, while recognising the need for a change in the present organisation of the City parishes, is confident that by adopting the drastic recommendations of the report the Church will stand to lose far more than she will gain. Greatly as we must deplore the splendid buildings destroyed by the Fire of London, their loss provided an opportunity such as seldom comes to any nation, and it was the great good fortune of England that the rebuilding of the City churches could be put into the hands of Sir Christopher Wren. At the time of his death in 1723, at the age of ninety-one, some fifty churches, designed by his hand, adorned the rebuilt City, a priceless and unique record of the life work of one of the greatest English architects.

Of the building of these churches a complete account is preserved. Not only do we know the dates when they were begun and finished, but we have every detail of their cost, and, what is even more valuable, the names of every craftsman employed on them, whether as mason, carpenter, joiner, plasterer, smith or in other trades. All

materials for a close and critical study of the craftsmanship of the end of the seventeenth century are ready to our hands, so long as the buildings themselves are preserved. Nor is it only in their architectural merit that their value lies. Owing to the necessity for rebuilding the City on its old lines, the new churches preserved the site-plans of their predecessors, and in many cases included parts of their fabrics, presenting for us much of the topography of the mediæval City which had been so completely swept away, and giving a historical continuity which added just that element of tradition and romance to which the new buildings by themselves could never attain.

Since they were built the conditions of life in London have entirely changed. The business population, whose homes are elsewhere, has increased enormously. The residents have dwindled to a comparatively insignificant number. The values of the sites have grown out of all proportion to what they were in the seventeenth century, while the congregations of the churches are in many cases reduced to a mere handful. Already seventeen of Wren's churches have been destroyed, and if the present report is adopted no less than thirty out of the original fifty will have disappeared. Some re-adjustment is needed, but not one which will inflict so heavy a loss on future ages. Something of the full pecuniary value of the churches and their sites must be foregone in order to preserve what no money can buy. A redistribution of their endowments has long been overdue, but to deal with ancient and historical sites as if they were occupied by nothing better than obsolete industrial buildings is a policy which no pecuniary gain can justify. Churches no longer needed for their original purpose, if such exist, should be put to some use which is not inconsistent with their preservation, and it is to such matters that the efforts of the Commission should be directed.

#### Empire Timber Exhibition.

The Department of Overseas Trade in promoting the Empire Timber Exhibition, to be held at Holland Park Skating Rink, W., from the 5th to the 17th July, aims at introducing to the British timber trade the wide range of timbers grown within the Empire. Many of these are but little known in the United Kingdom. At the same time the Exhibition will demonstrate how, under the stress of war, the home grown timbers were further exploited and developed, and the possibilities of larger development in the future.

Practically every timber-growing country in the Empire is represented either by an official exhibit or a private firm or both. The Dominions of Canada, New Zealand, and Newfoundland, the Indian Empire, the Governments of Western Australia, New South Wales, Tasmania, Union of South Africa, the administration of British Honduras, British Guiana, Ceylon, Gold Coast, Trinidad, Fiji, Nigeria and East Africa Protectorate, are all exhibiting.

Exhibits will be shown both in the rough and in the finished state, polished and unpolished, everything from the sawn log to the carved panel, from a lead pencil in cedar to a railway carriage in teak. A feature of the Western Australian exhibit will be a panelled room and furniture made of jarrah (Western Australian mahogany, or everlasting wood). The extraordinary durability of this wood is exemplified by various posts and rafters, which show little sign of deterioration after periods of 60 years in the ground or roof as the case may be.

A special exhibit of interest in the Indian Empire Section is a series of wood specimens bound in book form with a rosewood cover.

The catalogue is designed to be not only a temporary guide but also a reference work of lasting value. A combined index with cross references will enable the reader to trace rapidly any information required on any given timber. Both trade and botanical names are given, countries of origin, shippers from countries of origin and importers into the United Kingdom. In addition to the botanical details are given full descriptions of the wood, its general characteristics, tension strength, and much useful commercial data. This information has been collected from the Forest Departments of the Empire, and should be of unique value to the home trade.

Economically the Exhibition should have excellent results for the home timber trade in making an opportunity for the development of new sources of supply, the extension of established ones and the first-hand study of a world-wide range of timbers. The more the Imperial timber trade is developed the more hope there is for the stabilisation and reduction of prices. From the patriotic side also any encouragement to the Imperial trade is a gain, both moral and actual.

The exhibits sent by the Government of Ceylon include several valuable and beautiful woods for cabinet and furniture making, including rosewood, plain and flowered satinwood, and ebony, plain, streaked and speckled. There will also be an exhibit of Honduras mahogany grown in Ceylon, where the tree was introduced twenty-five years ago and has readily adapted itself. An exhibit of Ceylon ironwood is an example of the extraordinary durability of some Eastern timbers. The gates of Kalpitiya Fort, made of this wood, are sound after 135 years, and there are piles at Mannar which have remained sound though exposed to sea-water for a period of 100 years.

A number of useful woods from British East Africa are exhibited which are at present little known in the British market. The exhibits also include East African ebony, which is usually shipped from Zanzibar, and is well known in the trade under the name of African blackwood. Cedar for pencil making is shown both in rough slats and in slats prepared for export. Another exhibit will show the use of the East African bamboo in the preparation of pulp for the manufacture of paper. The Imperial Institute are now arranging experiments in this connection which should lead to the development of an important industry. Sportsmen will be interested in the golf club heads made from *munderendu*, a wood which is considered most suitable for axe, hoe, and other tool handles.

Exhibits from West Africa show timbers from the Gold Coast and Nigeria which are already well known to the trade in this country, such as mahogany and African teak; but there are also several timbers not yet familiar to English users which are well worth future development.

The West Indian exhibits include Honduras mahogany, which holds a foremost place in the trade for furniture-making and panelling, and was proved during the war to be one of the very best materials for aeroplane propellers. Mahogany substitutes, such as bruin-heart, crabwood, and purple-heart, are also shown. The collection of West Indian cedars includes white cedar, black cedar and red or brown cedar, of which the latter is extensively used for the manufacture of cigar boxes. The rosewood of British Honduras is closely allied to East Indian rosewood, which is much valued for cabinet work, furniture, inlaying, turning, etc.

Other interesting specimens from the West Indies include greenheart and mora, which are rated first class at Lloyd's for shipbuilding; guano blossom, which is recommended for trial in the preparation of wood pulp; and logwood and fustic, already well known in this country and used for the preparation of black and khaki dyes respectively.

#### Non-Poisonous Paints as "Primers."

H.M. Office of Works have issued the following Memorandum on the Test of Non-Poisonous Paints for "Priming" Iron and Steel:—

It is now 12 or 13 years since the Department decided to adopt non-poisonous paints for use on buildings in their charge and the results have been satisfactory. It is found that paints prepared on a base of zinc, iron oxide, etc., with proper mediums, afford quite as good protection to wood and ironwork as paints mixed on a lead base, and the risk of lead poisoning to the mixers and users of the paint is thereby eliminated.

The question was raised by the Home Office Committee on paints in 1911 whether it was not also possible to dispense with red and orange lead as "primers" for iron and steel, and to arrive at a decision it was decided to carry out a series of tests at Kew Gardens. These were conducted on about 100 samples supplied by specialist paint firms or mixed to specifications prepared by the Department. They were also tested alongside red and orange lead paints. The pigments used in the samples included lead carbonate, lead oxide, lead chromate, zinc oxide, lithopone, zinc chromate, barium chromate, various iron oxides, graphite, bitumen, with the usual "extenders" barium sulphate, silica and magnesium silicate, in various proportions.

It was recognised that pigment is not the only factor in the composition of paint, the medium being very important in a protective paint film. Linseed oil is the medium most commonly used in the samples, but this in many cases had an addition of good varnish, Chinese tung oil or tung oil varnish.

The samples were all put on duplicate iron plates which had been thoroughly cleaned and dried in the painters' shop, each sample covering an area of about 12 inches by 4 inches. After two days one plate was exposed to the weather on a wall facing south and the second plate in the warm damp atmosphere of a tropical greenhouse. The conditions in this latter case were most severe, as there was always condensation on the plates and they were often sprayed with water when the plants were receiving attention. The plates were examined once every 12 months over a period of four years by three officers of the Department and marks awarded at each examination.

The best results under the conditions obtaining in the tropical greenhouse were given by the red leads, which gained the first and fourth places in the list, but mixed paints on bases of zinc and lead chromate were second and third on the list; others with iron oxide, lead zinc and barium chromate, and zinc and iron oxide, were respectively fifth, sixth and seventh on the list, and all gave very good results. Most of these best paints had a special medium.

The most important tests, however, from a practical point of view were those of plates exposed to the weather under ordinary conditions. The first places were taken by a black iron oxide paint and a silica-graphite paint—these being bracketed equal—whilst another silica-graphite paint was placed second. Lead chromate paints and mixtures of chromate of lead and zinc, zinc chromate, and lead



zinc and barium chromate, all took high places, as also oxides of iron with and without zinc.

The silica-graphite paints were considered suitable for use as "primers" when followed by similar paint. They give no tooth for hard finishings, and when they are used as finishings are liable to rub off where handled, but they are good for bridges, roofs, etc. Red lead paint was 17th on the list, under ordinary exposure, thus showing that suitable paints can be obtained that obviate the use of this poisonous material.

It should be stated that all the paints referred to were mixed paints as supplied by various makers, and the maximum of 5 per cent. of soluble lead, as recommended by the Home Office Committee, was not exceeded.

#### Smoke Evil: Government Committee's Recommendations.

The Ministry of Health Committee on Smoke and Noxious Vapours Abatement, of which Lord Newton is Chairman, in a short interim report just published, deals with the domestic aspect of the smoke question, in particular reference to the present housing situation.

The report states that domestic soot contains a higher percentage of carbon and tar than factory soot, and is, therefore, more obnoxious and adhesive than the latter. At least half the total output of smoke is domestic, and at least 6 per cent. of the coal ordinarily burnt in domestic grates escapes as soot. The loss amounts to nearly 2½ million tons of soot (*i.e.*, waste fuel) per annum. The annual domestic consumption of crude coal in the metropolitan area is only 4½ million tons. It is estimated that the amount of fuel wasted throughout the country every year would warm all London for at least six months.

The Committee feel strongly that the new houses must not perpetuate the smoke evil; "a unique opportunity for constructive reform" must not be lost. Accordingly the Committee have investigated various ways in which heat can be supplied to the new houses without burning raw coal in domestic grates, the Committee being guided throughout by three main questions—(1) whether the schemes suggested were practicable; (2) whether they were hygienic; (3) whether they were relatively economical. In one scheme investigated there was an initial structural saving estimated at £30 per house effected by the substitution of smokeless for old-fashioned methods. This scheme is in actual operation at Northfield, near Birmingham.

The Committee recommend that sanction to housing schemes submitted by local housing authorities or public utility societies should be conditional upon the provision of smokeless methods of heating. They express themselves as satisfied that means which produce little or no smoke are available and practicable for cooking, heating water, and warming rooms, and summarise their general conclusions as follows:—

(1) Subject to the opinion previously expressed with regard to the future possibilities of electricity as a heating agent, we think that wherever a supply of gas is available a gas cooker should be installed in lieu of a coal range.

(2) The cheapest and most efficient method of providing a supply of hot water, where a central supply is not practicable, is by a coke-fired boiler.

(3) A central hot-water supply for detached houses, where practicable, is a desirable system, if it can be provided at a moderate cost. Practical experiments in this direction are urgently needed, and should be given every encouragement.

(4) For tenement houses a central supply of hot water is quite practicable, and should be provided universally.

(5) The system of installing separate central-heating plants in each house, heated by coke or anthracite, should be employed far more widely than is at present the case.

(6) As far as practicable gas fires or hot-water radiators (or electric radiators, subject to the question of cost) should entirely supersede the old-fashioned open coal fire, adequate means for proper ventilation being provided.

(7) We are aware that there is still a strong prejudice in many quarters in favour of an open coal fire, and we therefore limit our recommendation to this extent—namely, that in none of the houses built with the assistance of the Government subsidy should more than one or, in exceptional circumstances, two coal grates be installed. Wherever coal ranges and coal grates are installed they should be of a type adapted to the use of coke as well as of coal. Adequate means of regulating the draught should in all cases be provided.

With regard to the question of domestic heating in general, we are struck by the absence of full and scientific knowledge. We think that the whole subject of hygienic and scientific heating deserves a very much greater measure of public attention than it has hitherto received.

#### Increased Grants to Private Persons Building Houses.

The Ministry of Health in a recently published memorandum state they have had under further consideration the conditions governing grants to private persons constructing houses under Section 1 of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919; and have decided to make the following modifications in the arrangements already announced in the memorandum on "Grants to Private Persons or Bodies of Persons Constructing Houses under the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919."

1. In the case of houses which are completed within 12 months of the passing of the Act, *i.e.*, before 23rd December, 1920, the amounts of the grants will be as follows:—

(a) In respect of houses containing two living rooms (*i.e.*, living room and parlour) and three or four bedrooms, and comprising *not less* than 920 feet super of floor area—£260 per house.

(b) In respect of houses containing one living room and three bedrooms, and comprising *not less* than 780 feet super of floor area—£240 per house.

(c) In respect of houses containing one living room and two bedrooms and comprising not less than 700 feet super of floor area—£230 per house.

In the case of one-storey cottages or flats, where a common staircase is provided, the minimum superficial areas referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) above may be reduced by 40 feet super respectively.

No grant will be made in respect of any house with more than four bedrooms, or which has a superficial floor area in excess of 1,400 feet. The local authority may approve the inclusion of rooms other than those specifically referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c), provided that the sizes of all the rooms are not less than the minimum sizes authorised in the case of houses built by local authorities.

The increases prescribed by this memorandum apply in respect of all houses which were commenced on or after the 1st April last. In the case of houses which were commenced before that date the amount of the grant previously authorised will be increased by £50,



or by £33 6s. 8d. where under the terms of the previous memorandum the grant was reducible by one-third.

The conditions contained in paragraph 3 of the previous memorandum, as to the reduction of grant where houses are not completed within 12 months of the passing of the Act, will apply to these increased grants.

2. Subject to the sanction of the Ministry grants will be available for houses built in flats of more than two storeys in height, in areas where there is a demand for accommodation of this kind. Each flat complying with the conditions as to floor space and accommodation will be treated as one house.

3. The Local Authority may require the applicant to give to them an undertaking in writing to pay to them a fee not exceeding £3 3s. for each type of house for which separate plans are required, in respect of any expenses incurred by them in the examination of plans, etc., in connection with the applications; such fee to be payable after certificate B has been issued.

The forms of certificate appended to the memorandum may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office.

#### Treatment of Unhealthy Areas.

*Housing* (the Ministry of Health's organ), of the 21st June publishes numerous extracts from the Interim Report of the Committee appointed by the Minister of Health to consider and advise on the Principles to be followed in dealing with unhealthy areas. The Committee was constituted as follows:—Mr. Neville Chamberlain, M.P. (Chairman); Mrs. E. Barton, of the Sheffield City Council and the Woman's Co-operative Guild; Mr. E. J. Brown, F.I.O.B.; Right Hon. C. W. Bowerman, M.P.; Dr. W. J. Howarth, C.B.E., Medical Officer of Health to the Corporation of London; Mr. R. C. Maxwell, O.B.E., LL.D., Minister of Health; Mr. G. L. Pepler, F.S.I., P.T.P.I., Minister of Health; Captain R. L. Reiss, Chairman of Executive Committee, the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association; and Mr. H. Jennings (Secretary).

The reference was in the following terms: "To consider and advise on the Principles to be followed in dealing with unhealthy areas, including the circumstances in which schemes of reconstruction, as distinct from clearance, may be adopted, and, as regards cleared areas, the extent to which rehousing on the site should be required, the kind of housing which should be permitted, and the use of the site for factory or other purposes than housing.

[This Interim Report relates in particular to the Metropolitan area to which the first investigations were directed, as it was considered that London presented many features which were unique. The Report was signed by all the Committee, subject to certain reservations on the part of particular members.]

Discussing alternative methods for dealing with overcrowding, the Committee are of opinion that in view of the excess population in the crowded areas of London, there are only two main alternatives by way of remedy. The one is to allow the population to expand vertically instead of horizontally; the other, to remove a large part of it bodily elsewhere, re-arranging what is left on the old sites, but with adequate accommodation, including the requisite open spaces. The first alternative has recently attracted a good deal of attention. It has been represented that it would

require no interference with existing industries, and that the piling up of the population in lofty buildings would enable considerable open spaces to be left below, which could be used as recreation grounds for children or as parks and gardens. Nevertheless, the Committee are convinced on the evidence before them that this system is quite unsuitable for people who are dependent on their own efforts for domestic services and the care of their children.

The second alternative, namely, Redistribution, requires considerable time in its application, and must be combined with measures of prevention as well as of cure. It would be useless to hope for improvement in the congested areas if these are allowed to become still more congested by the further demolition of houses to make way for more profitable buildings, and it would appear necessary to take measures to discourage any increase of labour-employing establishments in such areas. . . .

Many of the factories now located in London might apparently have been placed elsewhere without any disadvantage to themselves, and the Committee express themselves as strongly of opinion that, side by side with the restrictions suggested upon factories in London, there should be encouraged the starting of new industries and the removal of existing factories to garden cities which should be founded in the country where the inhabitants will live close to their work under the best possible conditions. Generally speaking, these communities should not exceed from 30,000 to 50,000 people, and should be surrounded by a belt of agricultural land for the purpose of health and recreation, and for local food production.

The Committee summarise their conclusions as follows:

1. The size and complexity of the problem require that it should be attacked from many sides at once, and prompt attention should be given to measures which may prevent any extension of the difficulties now existing. Among these measures we recommend that the development of self-contained garden cities, either round an existing nucleus or on new sites, should be encouraged and hastened by State assistance in the early stages.

2. We recommend that either the Parliament of London if set up, or, if not, some new authority to be instituted after enquiry, should be given power over a wide area, embracing the Home Counties, as well as the Metropolitan and City Police Districts, to prepare a general plan of the area, to control its transport system and to make such financial adjustments between the local authorities concerned as may be necessary.

3. In the central areas we recommend that local authorities should be given powers to declare overcrowded districts "congested areas," and thereafter to prohibit the demolition of houses or the erection of buildings other than dwellinghouses in those areas without a licence from the local authority. Further, we recommend that all such local authorities should be urged to adopt the Model Bye-laws under the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, of 1919 (Series XIII (6), published on p. 87 of Vol. II of the Manual on Unfit Houses and Unhealthy Areas, issued by the Minister of Health), which define the conveniences, etc., which must be provided before a single-family house may be let for occupation by more than one family.

4. In view of the impossibility of carrying through reconstruction schemes in unhealthy areas on a large scale while the present shortage of houses exists, we recommend as a temporary measure that local authorities should be urged to adopt the procedure of section 13 of the Housing Act of 1919, and purchase thereunder the lands and the dwelling-house property thereon in areas which have been by resolution declared to be unhealthy, thereafter renovating, repairing and improving the property and managing it on the Octavia Hill system.

### The Future of Ypres.

Senator Vinck and M. Van der Swaelmen in an article entitled "The Problem of Ypres" in the current issue of the *Garden Cities and Town Planning Magazine*, describe the scheme for the future of Ypres which is put forward by the "Union des Villes et Communes Belges" and the Commission specially appointed to study the matter of reconstruction. This conception is favoured by the permanent advisory committee of architects appointed by the Belgian Government to be attached to the Department of the Devastated Regions with a view to the co-ordination of architectural works in the region. The scheme has the support of the Department itself, of the Minister of the Interior, and of the great majority of Belgian artists and town planners. "Their aim," say the writers, "is to keep and protect devoutly the tragic ruins and to put between them and the noisy life of civic and commercial life a natural protective screen of trees and vegetation." They propose (a) to enclose the sacred area with hedges, making it a green shrine; (b) to protect the shrine by a broad girdle of trees, following the line of the surrounding market place so as to keep the old topography—this girdle would create a zone of complete quietness; (c) the houses to be removed to a line behind this zone, and subjected to certain rules forbidding their use for cafés, etc. The carrying out of this proposal offers two alternatives: (a) Should a great number of citizens be willing to return and rebuild, the new civic centre would have to be planned a hundred yards south of the old market place; (b) supposing the returning citizens are not so numerous, the civic centre would be left at the east end of the old market place, but be completely separated from the ruins by the protecting girdle of trees. The Government has been asked to make a serious inquiry amongst all the Ypres citizens in order to discover exactly if their intention is to come back.

The above scheme, however, is strongly opposed by the municipal authorities. Their aim is to sweep away the tragic ruins and to rebuild on the cleared spot the Cloth Hall and St. Martin's Cathedral. Their intention, too, is to rebuild the private houses in their ancient aspect. This conception is supported by certain archaeological societies—societies which, according to the writers of the above-mentioned article, do not seem in Belgium to have reached an equal stage of development to that of similar societies in England, France, and Holland.

### Compensation for War Damage.

The Committee on War Damage was formed at a public meeting held on 8th October, 1915, and a memorial calling upon the Government to abandon their scheme of War Damage Insurance, and to compensate all sufferers from air raids and bombardment out of National Funds, was prepared. The Committee at first failed to get any result from their appeal; but Mr. Asquith, just before his resignation, informed the Committee that his Government had agreed to reconsider the matter, and in July, 1917, the new Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, received the Committee's deputation, when the memorial was presented on behalf of 842 municipal authorities, representing some 32 million people, and a number of City Guilds, Chambers of Commerce, and other corporations. Mr. Lloyd George, in reply, said that in principle the Committee had certainly made out a case; that the people ought to be protected against the consequences of these barbarities, and without distinction of rich or poor. In principle, he accepted the case on behalf of the Government.

Up to the present only partial effect has been given to the Prime Minister's pronouncement. Put shortly, the results obtained by the Committee thus far are as follows:—(1) A reduction of 50 per cent. on the premiums for insurance. Through this reduction the annual premiums paid by 95 municipal authorities were reduced by more than £30,000. The City of London alone saved the sum of £6,350 per annum on air raid insurance premiums paid on corporate property only. (2) Compensation, by way of grace, in certain cases for personal injuries. (3) Compensation for injury to property since August, 1917, in certain cases up to £500: under this scheme 5,553 awards have been made, amounting to a total of £101,402. In November, 1918, pending the further consideration of the memorial, the Government agreed to regard all aircraft and bombardment insurance policies as renewed without payment of further premiums. The total amount of premiums paid up to that date exceeded £13,000,000, the Government then having a balance in hand of £10,680,000.

Further correspondence with Ministers and interviews with Government Departments resulted, on 20th January last, in the Committee being authorised to issue a letter to the municipal authorities stating that the Government required the full particulars of all claims for damage done by enemy air raids and bombardments for the purpose of the preparation of claims to be put forward by the British Reparation Commissioner to the Reparation Commission under the Peace Treaty.

On 27th March the Chairman of the Committee was able to send a letter to the Press stating that at last there was evidence that the Government were dealing with the matter in earnest, and that forms could now be obtained on application to Mr. W. Neill, Controller, Reparation Claim Department, Board of Trade, Cornwall House, Stamford Street, S.E. The forms to be filled up were:—(1) Damage due to loss of life of British civilians; (2) Damage to British civilians due to personal injury; (3) Damage to British civilians by loss of or injury to property; (4) Damage caused to British civilians by being forced to labour without just remuneration. Particulars were asked to be furnished of all injuries which had been compensated in whole or in part from private or public charitable funds, as in the end all such funds should be reimbursed.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Mark H. Judge [A.], writes that his Committee are issuing a statement (the gist of which is set out above) to municipal and other public bodies throughout the country, and that a copy has been sent to the Prime Minister with a covering letter signed by Lord Parmoor, Sir Wm. H. Dunn, and Mr. Mark Judge, in which the following paragraph from the statement is quoted:—

"Under these circumstances it is felt that the Committee may now rely on the Government giving full effect to the pronouncement of the Prime Minister on 13th July, 1917, so soon as the Reparation Claims Department of the Board of Trade have tabulated the Returns of Damage done by Air Raid and Bombardment: especially when it is remembered that the Government made a profit of more than £10,000,000 on the premiums paid."

The letter concludes with the expression of the hope that as soon as the returns are tabulated, compensation will be at once paid by the Government, without waiting for its payment by our late enemies.

### The Rockefeller Foundation Gift.

According to *The Daily Mail*, the Rockefeller Foundation gift of £1,205,000 to University College Hospital Medical

School is to be expended as follows:—New Nurses' Home, £103,000; New Obstetrics Unit, £109,500; New Residents' Quarters, £31,000; Bio-Chemical Laboratory, £50,750; Reconstruction of hospital wing, open-air galleries, theatres, alterations, contingency fund, £106,000. Building work for University College will comprise an Institute of Anatomy, to which £189,800 is allotted for site, buildings, equipment, and library. The rest of the money (some £615,000) is to be devoted to maintenance.

#### Regulation of Advertisements.

Lord Balfour of Burleigh's Bill, now before the House of Lords, to amend the Advertisements Regulation Act, 1907, proposes to give local authorities power by by-law to regulate all advertisements on lands and buildings, except those of public authorities and those within buildings. They will further have power to prohibit advertisements which do not relate to the land or building on which they are intended to be exhibited, and also moving or flash-light advertisements. Powers are given to deal with advertisements of a repulsive or demoralising character.

#### The Architectural Association.

With a view to widening the scope and usefulness of the Association, a Country Membership Section has been created, limited to members of architectural societies recognised by the Council of the Architectural Association and whose headquarters are not less than 50 miles distant from Charing Cross. Country members will have the use of the employment register, the library (books sent by post), full use of the Association's premises when in London, and are entitled to attend excursions and visits.

#### Australian Architects: Code of Professional Conduct.

From the Federal Council of the Australian Institute of Architects has been received a copy of the "Code of Ethics" recommended for adoption by the Australian State Institutes of Architects. It consists in all of fourteen definite rules, most of them identical in substance with the R.I.B.A. Council resolutions relating to "Professional Conduct, etc.," published in the *KALENDAR*, p. 60, and including rules directed against the practices referred to in the Declarations signed by Members and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A. The Code also condemns as an offence conduct recognised here to be unprofessional though not the subject of specific rule. For instance, it is unprofessional for a member to criticise in the public prints the professional conduct or work of another member except over his own name or under the authority of a professional journal. No member should submit drawings except as an original contributor in any duly instituted competition, or attempt to secure any work for which such a competition remains undecided. No member shall compete in amount of commission or offer to work for less than the Scale of Charges drawn up by the Federal Council of the Australian Institutes of Architects. No member shall enter into partnership in any form, or degree, with any builder or contractor. No member shall be a party to a building contract except as "architect" or "proprietor." No member should guarantee an estimate or contract by personal bond. It is also laid down to be unprofessional to practise with an architect who has been expelled from, or is not a member of, a recognised institute of architects. The interests of pupils and assistants have also to be considered, a member

being expected so to conduct his practice as to forward the cause of professional education and render all possible help to juniors, draughtsmen, and students.

#### A Gift of Polish Architectural Designs.

M. Constantin Jakimowicz, Official Delegate of the Polish Government, and representative of the Association of Polish Architects of Warsaw (of which he is past President) at the Inter-Allied Housing and Town Planning Congress held in London from 27th May to 5th June, during his visit to London personally presented to the Library several books, as well as designs, of characteristic Polish architecture, by S. Noakowski and others.

M. Fleury Goyus, Deputy Mayor of Lyons, M. E. Galland, Architect and Member of the Conseil Municipal at Lyons, and delegates at the Congress, called at the Library to inspect the Civic Survey diagrams, which were also inspected by M. Augustin Rey, of Paris, who represented at the Inter-Allied Housing and Town Planning Congress the various architectural and other societies interested in the housing question in France.

#### Liege Defence Memorial.

The province and town of Liège have decided to erect a monument commemorating the defence of Belgium against the German invader. A sum of 1,000,000f. has been subscribed for the project. The design for the memorial will be decided by a competition open to architects and sculptors of Belgian nationality or subjects of the Allied Powers. The conditions of the competition may be obtained from M. Léon Maréchal, Bureau des Beaux-Arts, Hotel de Ville, Liège, Belgium. A map of the selected site will be sent on receipt of 5f.

#### Victoria and Albert Museum: Recent Acquisitions.

The Victoria and Albert Museum has received from Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild a most valuable gift, consisting of a magnificent pair of silver-gilt candlesticks for an altar, enriched with enamels and plaques of rock crystal, Italian work of the highest quality, dating from the sixteenth century. The gift is of peculiar importance, inasmuch as the altar cross belonging to the candlesticks is already in the possession of the Museum, having been acquired in 1861 at the time of the dispersal of the Soltyskoff Collection, in which it was one of the most notable objects.

The group of three pieces is attributed to Valerio Belli of Vicenza, whose work in the carving of crystal is celebrated by Vasari. The carvings of the cross are of exceptional beauty, and the distinction of style of the work in enamelled silver is equally striking, so that the whole represents a very remarkable artistic achievement. The set is said to have been made originally for François I. of France.

The candlesticks were shown by the late Mr. Leopold de Rothschild at an exhibition held at St. James's Court in 1903, and there came under the observation of the Museum. The discovery of an obscure pamphlet supplied evidence of their origin, and the group formed the subject of a notice in the *Burlington Magazine* for 1906, when the relations existing between the cross and the candlesticks was made known. Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild, in presenting the candlesticks, and thereby bringing the group once more together, has shown true appreciation of a great artist's work. Her generous and public-spirited action is a matter of congratulation to the public generally as well as to those who are more directly interested in the development

of our national collections as a means of advancing the industries of the country.

This group of objects has been placed on exhibition in the East Hall.

There has also been arranged in the East Hall (Ground Floor) an exhibition of the additions made to the collections during the last year or two. Many of them were received at a time when no grant was available for the purchase of works of art for the Museum, and some were given in memory of the fallen. In addition to those which have been already described in these columns the following are worthy of special notice.

Mr. Alfred Simson has given an important example of German sculpture of the early sixteenth century—a head of St. John the Baptist in carved and painted plane-wood, one of a numerous group of such objects made to be put up in chapels or churches dedicated to the saint on the anniversary of his Decollation. This work is very close to that of the great Tyrolese master, Michael Pacher. An example of Eastern art is a terra-cotta head of a man given by Sir Charles Marling, K.C.M.G. This is of Persian origin and dates perhaps from the 12th century. The fine fifteenth century English alabaster altar-piece from Lord Swansea's collection at Singleton Abbey, already described in *THE JOURNAL*, is also exhibited in the East Hall.

### Books Received.

- The Foundations of Classic Architecture. Illustrated from Documents and Original Drawings. By Herbert Langford Warren, A.M., late Fellow of the American Inst. of Architects, and Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Harvard University. 32s. net. Sm. 40. New York, 1919. [Macmillan & Co., St. Martin's Street, W.C.]
- Town Planning: A Sketch in Outline. By John Sulman, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Town Planning Advisory Board to the Department of Local Government, and of the New South Wales Town Planning Association. Pamph. 80. [Sydney, 1919.]
- A Guide to the Identification of our more useful Timber, being a Manual for the Use of Students of Forestry. By Herbert Stone, Lecturer in Forestry. 80. 1920. 7s. 6d. net. [University Press, Cambridge.]
- Description of the House and Museum on the North Side of Lincoln's Inn Fields, the Residence of Sir John Soane. By Arthur T. Bolton, F.S.A. English Eighteenth Century Sculptures in Sir John Soane's Museum. By Arthur T. Bolton, F.S.A. With 21 illustrations. 2s. Sold only at the Museum.
- The Tangled Skein: Art in England, 1890-1920. By Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Litt.D. (Fifth Annual Lecture on Aspects of Art delivered before the British Academy. Reprinted from the Proceedings of the British Academy, Vol. IX.) 1s. 6d. net. [Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, Amen Corner, E.C.]
- Oxford, from Pictures by L. Russell Conway. Portfolio of Plates. 21s. net. [Wells Gardner, Darton & Co., Ltd.]
- Man and his Buildings. By T. S. Attlee, M.A., A.R.I.B.A. [The Christian Revolution Series, Vol. X.] 80. Lond. 1920. 6s. net. [Swarthmore Press, Ltd., 72 Oxford Street, W.1.]
- Notes on Property Law and Investment. By S. Ford, Barrister-at-Law, formerly F.S.I., A.R.I.B.A. 7th edition. 80. Lond. 1920. 2s. 6d. [Eveleigh Nash Co., Ltd.]
- Architecture and Sculpture in Mysore. No. III. (Mysore Archaeological Series). The Lakshmi Devi Temple at Doddagaddavalli. By R. Narasimhachar, M.A., M.R.A.S., Director of Archaeological Researches in Mysore. La 40. Bangalore. 1919. 2s. net. [Government Book Depot, Bangalore.]
- Standard Method of Measurement for Reinforced Concrete in Building Construction: Report of the Joint Committee of Representatives of the Quantity Surveyors' Association, the Quantity Surveyor Members of the Concrete Institute and the Reinforced Concrete Practice Standing Committee of the Concrete Institute. (Adopted by bodies represented.) Pamph. 1s. 1d. post-free. [The Concrete Institute.]
- The Ventilation of Concrete Buildings. By Edward L. Joseph, M.I.E.E., F.C.S. Pamph. [The Concrete Institute.]
- Commission of Conservation, Canada. Report of Tenth Annual Meeting held at Ottawa Feb., 1919. La 80. 276 pp. illustrated.
- Welsh Housing and Development Year Book, 1920. Edited by J. A. Lovat Fraser, M.A., Chairman of Council of Welsh Housing and Development Association, and P. J. Evans, Secretary. 40. 1s. 6d. net. [35, Charles Street, Cardiff.]
- Housing—Schemes submitted to the Ministry of Health by Local Authorities and Public Utility Societies up to 28th February 1920. 1s. net. [H.M. Stationery Office, Imperial House, Kingsway.]

## ALLIED SOCIETIES.

### The Institute of Scottish Architects.

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Institute of Scottish Architects was held in Edinburgh on the 16th June, the function consisting of (1) the Annual General Meeting in the Hall of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts; (2) Lunch at Ferguson and Forrester's Restaurant, and (3) Visit to Holyrood Palace and Chapel Royal, the Royal permission having been granted to members and their friends to visit the State Apartments and see everything of interest within the Palace. At the annual meeting, after the transaction of the formal business, the following Address was delivered by the retiring President, Dr. William Kelly, A.R.S.A. :—

Two closely related problems, among many others that insistently call for solution, are occupying the thoughts of architects not only here in Scotland, but also in England and in America :—

(1) How can we explain to the public what is the true function of the architect : and (2) how is the professional education of architects to be improved.

### THE FUNCTION OF THE ARCHITECT.

Concerning the function of the architect : By many people modern architecture is regarded as but the decorative dress of buildings ; as nothing more serious than a mantle of forms and ornaments, borrowed from bygone styles, thrown over the naked elements that constitute building. The modern architect is thought to profess the art of applying to some kinds of buildings a highly conventional mask composed of such things as columns and cornices, very costly, and to tell the truth, rather dull and uninteresting, even to cultivated people. If all wealthy folk had some understanding of what architecture is, even fashion could not lure them to spending money on " faithful reproductions of period styles " ; nor would any purchaser be found for " An Elizabethan Manor House, " so called and advertised as having been designed and executed by an existing firm of providers.

In one sense, architects are not responsible for these aberrations ; in another, I feel that the long-continued emphasis laid by architects on the correct use of historic styles has been a contributory cause. In this region, light and air are wanted, that gross misconceptions of the art of architecture may be cleared away. Leaving certain kinds of monument out of account, architecture has always been the art of constructing materials to provide rooms, or related and connected groups of rooms, to suit exactly some definite purposes of use. Each single work must needs be so strongly, simply, fitly, and economically framed together and finished, that it becomes a perfect thing, like a natural living body. In remarking on the beauty of all fully formed wild animals living an independent life, Professor J. Arthur Thomson has said that Beauty is Nature's stamp of approval on unified harmonious living. In like manner, beauty comes as a gift upon all unified harmonious structure for use : it comes upon simple, thoughtful, cared-for work ; may come even upon barns and storehouses, workshops and factories, for these in their degree may belong to the kingdom of architecture as truly as a church or a town hall. Thus, because architecture is really organic building, the architect is, first and foremost, a deviser of things that are constructed and organised to the point of having become complete and well-finished bodies.

How is this view of architecture and of the function of architects to be published and recommended for general acceptance ? I answer, by demonstration and by teaching. It is the young who are teachable. In this connection, the Regional Survey Associations may exercise much influence by teaching the living relationship between Place, Work, and Folk. Love of our own corner of the earth, of all that

comes from it and grows out of it, and of our kindred who have worthily lived and live there, is at the root of a real understanding and love of the crafts and of the architecture of that district; and, beginning at home, we may extend our "Region" as far as capacity and opportunity permit. We plead for reality as against masquerade and make-believe; for spontaneous natural expression as against imitation and pedantry. Show the teachers of the young that real architecture is full of interest, touching life at all points, and by - and - by, through our elementary and secondary schools and our Universities, the men and women of the future will understand and appreciate architecture more than their forebears of the last century or two have done.

#### PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Questions concerning the professional education of architects may introduce more debatable matter. All are agreed that the sound foundation of a liberal education and broad general culture is more than ever necessary. Beyond that stage, opinions may differ; but let me ask you to consider these propositions:

1. That an extended course of drawing should first be taken by every student intending to follow architecture. The basis of the visual arts is drawing; that is, the accurate and sympathetic perception and delineation of form. Painting and sculpture, as well as architecture, are grounded upon knowledge of form. The architect, however, has no need to pursue pictorial drawing to any great length; what rather he should strive to attain is mastery of form, the power of shaping things expressively. But to that end the practice and discipline of drawing, including drawing from the life, should be greatly extended. The student of architecture as a rule spends too little time in learning to draw; and he applies himself too soon and too exclusively to geometrical architectural drawing, which is quite another thing. Drawing is in these days learned mainly in the School of Art; and afterwards in drawing outside, from Nature and buildings.

2. That having acquired some real power of drawing, the architectural student should become thoroughly acquainted with the properties and the strength of materials. He must study physics and its application to built structures, both theoretically and practically; and become familiar with standard practice in masonry, carpentry, and the other building crafts. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of this part of his training, which should be obtained partly in the schools, partly in an architect's office, and in contact with actual works. The vital connection of the teaching of construction with the School of Architecture, so necessary to the life of the school, can in my opinion be secured only when the head is an architect who can and does control the teaching of practical construction. For a work of architecture, being construction with expression, cannot come about unless its maker is master of both material and form.

3. That the student, having some understanding of form and construction, is now fitted to proceed to the study of the historical development of architecture. But it is to be understood that this study should be carried on in the spirit in which University students read and learn to appreciate English literature, not for the purpose of themselves writing in the manner of any particular maker of poetry or of prose, but that they may become, if possible, masters of English.

4. That concurrently, some characteristic examples of architecture attractive to the student should be noted and actually measured in detail, and represented with scrupulous regard for truth in complete workmanlike plans, sections, and elevations. Conscientious and thoughtful work of this nature is of immense benefit to the student.

5. That thus so far equipped, the student can with advantage to himself and his principal be employed in regular office-work. His contact with reality in an office where architecture is in the process of making, and where

he may daily gain insight into the practical working out of schemes, will enable him to make real attempts of his own in devising simple architectural structures for actual or possible conditions, instead of merely doing dry exercises in the combination of classic and academic forms.

6. That in setting forth his designs the use of a simple clear line is to be preferred, as much less liable to mislead the student himself, rather than the practice of elaborate shading, representing cast shadows, and treating plans, sections and elevations semi-pictorially. The habit of drawing hand-sketches in perspective, such as those illuminating little studies by Bramante and Peruzzi, is infinitely more useful in aiding one to realise the effect of structural composition.

7. That apprenticeship to an architect, in conjunction with sufficient periods of school work, is more likely to provide a sound early training for architects generally than school work alone, or school work plus limited attendance in an office; because while in an art school pictures may be produced, and also sculpture—at least to the extent of modelling—architecture itself cannot be done. Only in an architect's office can one take part in doing the real actual thing. There, and there only, the student may see how requirements are met and how the business of building organic structures, devised and supervised by the architect, is carried out to completion.

But it is most important that after the termination of their apprenticeship the more able students should be encouraged and enabled to pursue advanced studies in a School of Architecture and as travelling students.

8. That the formal instruction of students in building law and professional conduct is necessary. The architect's duties and responsibilities to the public, to his client, to contractors and craftsmen, and to his professional brethren are surely matters of the highest moment; for upon the full recognition and fulfilment of these duties and responsibilities depends the wellbeing of architecture.

At the same meeting Mr. Alexander N. Paterson, M.A., A.R.S.A. (F.), was unanimously elected and installed as President for the ensuing year.

At the luncheon afterwards, presided over by Mr. Paterson, Sir George McCrae, in submitting the toast of "the Institute of Scottish Architects," referred to the great assistance architects had rendered to the Board of Health in connection with the housing schemes. He thought they had been able to produce something that would be to the credit of Scotland in having housing schemes which had been framed and carried out with a due regard to beauty and stability. In matters of design they had endeavoured to have as many experiments as possible with regard to different forms of construction, and in this respect Glasgow had been very much to the forefront with five experimental houses, which had been practically finished. Here they had a comparison of the different forms of construction and cost, and they were able to judge whether the difference in cost was justified by the extra stability of the structure in one case and the other. In Scotland the Board of Health had been urging on Local Authorities to try new methods of construction, and in Edinburgh an experimental building was to be erected according to the Dorman Long design. They had as far as possible in Scotland encouraged the use of stone, and there were schemes for stone buildings going on in Elgin, Dumfries, Glasgow, and Edinburgh; in one case the extra cost for a stone dwelling as compared with another constructed of brick was £117. Having different forms of construction had also the further advantage of utilising all the possible labour.

The President, in reply, said that the Institute had found in the Scottish Board of Health a warm friend and collaborator in recent years.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

**THE R.I.B.A. FINAL EXAMINATION AND THE RECOGNISED SCHOOLS.**—The Council have passed the following resolution with regard to exemption from the R.I.B.A. Final Examination: "The Council of the Royal Institute will, subject to proper safeguards, recognise for exemption from its Final Examination (with the exception of that portion of the Examination which deals with Professional Practice) such schools as have set up a five years' Diploma or Degree course which the Council can approve, provided that, in judging all designs submitted for the Diploma or Degree, there be two External Examiners, approved by the Council, with power of veto."

**THE CITY CHURCHES.**—The Council have appointed two members—the President and Mr. George Hubbard—to represent the R.I.B.A. on the Joint Committee which has been set up to consider the question of the threatened City Churches.

**COMPETITIONS.**—The Council have taken action in the case of several members who have sent in designs for competitions which have been vetoed on the recommendation of the Competitions Committee.

**"LUXURY" BUILDING.**—An enquiry into the actual working of the restriction of building by the local authorities has been initiated, and the Building Industries Consultative Board has approached the London County Council on this matter.

**THE IMPERIAL FORESTRY CONFERENCE.**—The Council have appointed the following members to represent the R.I.B.A. at the Imperial Forestry Conference: Messrs. H. D. Searles-Wood, Alan E. Munby, W. Henry White, Digby L. Solomon, and J. Ernest Franck.

**ULSTER SOCIETY.**—A resolution has been received from the Ulster Society of Architects warmly supporting the Council's policy of unification and registration.

**MR. THOMAS E. COLLCUTT.**—In passing a resolution for the transfer of Mr. Thomas E. Colcutt, Past President, to the class of Retired Fellows, the Council have taken the opportunity of expressing to him their grateful appreciation of his many services to the Royal Institute, and to the art of architecture.

**THE FORM OF CONTRACT AND THE "NATIONAL BUILDING CODE."**—The revised Form of Contract has now been completed. A Conference is to be held with the representatives of the Surveyors' Institution and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers to discuss the new Form and the "National Building Code."

**THE INCREASE OF RENT BILL.**—The Council have approached the Surveyors' Institution with the object of taking joint action to obtain an amendment in the Increase of Rent Bill in the interests of architects and surveyors.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER BOARD REGULATIONS.**—Mr. H. Austen Hall has been appointed, in place of Mr. Alan E. Munby, resigned, to represent the R.I.B.A. on the Standing Committee on Water Board Regulations.

**REINSTATEMENTS.**—The following members have been reinstated by the Council: R. A. H. Phipps [*Associate*], C. T. Adshead [*Associate*], and J. A. Black [*Licentiate*].

**THE SCALE OF FEES FOR HOUSING SCHEMES.**—The negotiations with the Ministry of Health on the revision of the agreed Scale of Fees for Housing Schemes are nearly completed, and it is hoped that an amended scale will be published at an early date.

**DURATION OF THE SESSION.**—Under By-law 57 the duration of the current session has been extended until 1st November, 1920.

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## COMPETITIONS.

### Gloucester War Memorial Competition.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above Competition are unsatisfactory. The Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the Competition.

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### Professional Announcements.

Mr. Cecil Masey [*Lic.*] has changed his office address to Grecian Chambers, Devereux Court, Strand, W.C.2.

Messrs. Lanchester, Rickards & Lucas have removed their office from No. 47 to No. 19 Bedford Square, W.C.1.

Mr. H. V. Lanchester [*F.*] and Mr. Pieter Rodeck have the pleasure to announce that, having entered into a partnership for Northern India, they have established an office at Lucknow, N.P.

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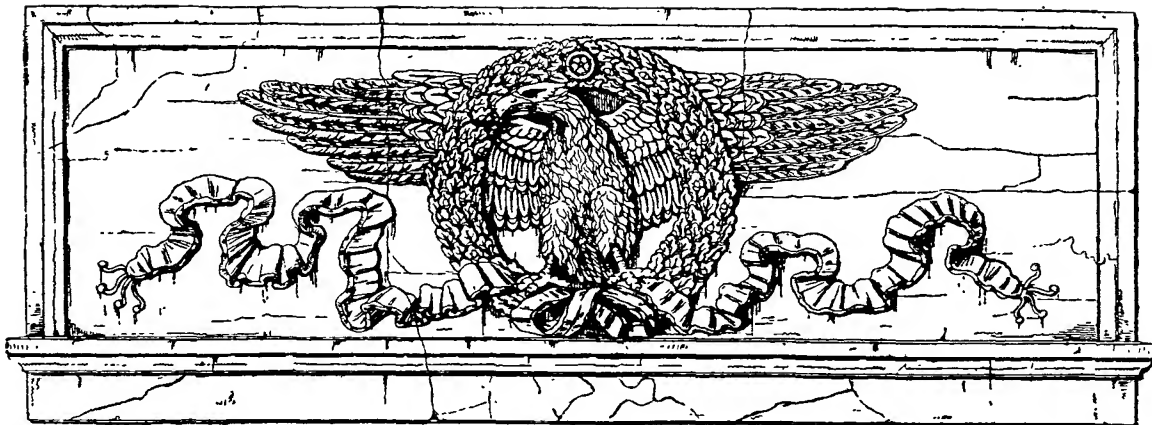
## NOTICE TO LICENTIATES.

The Licentiates have formed a General Committee for the purpose of organisation, and it is announced that a General Meeting for all Licentiates will be held in September. Further particulars will be given in a later issue of the JOURNAL.

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**HONG KONG.**—Architectural Assistant required for service as an Assistant Engineer, Grade III, in the Public Works Department of Hong Kong. Applicants, who must be unmarried and between the ages of 24 and 30, should be fully qualified architects' assistants, well up in building construction and drainage works, able to make surveys and take levels. One who has a knowledge of the law relating to buildings, public health, and easements, and who has had experience in the administration of Building and Public Health By-laws, preferred. The person appointed will be required to scrutinise plans submitted under the local ordinance, to carry out the inspection of dangerous buildings, searching of old records in relation to land, etc., and general office routine. Duration of engagement 3 years, with prospect of permanency. Salary £400 p.a., rising to £440; if appointment made permanent, rising by annual increments of £20 to £600. Free passage out and home. Address, in the first place, The Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.





## WHY IS ARCHITECTURE THE "MISTRESS ART"?

By Professor G. BALDWIN BROWN, M.A. [*Hon. A.*].

Read before the Edinburgh Architectural Association, 26th February 1920.

IS it the Mistress Art? At a meeting of an architectural association we may confidently make this claim for it, but it would certainly not be allowed by the public at large. In popular estimation by far the most important and interesting art of form is the art of painting. To the "man in the street" architecture is not an art at all—it is just building for purposes of use and convenience. Sculpture he takes as a matter of course; there seems to him no difficulty in copying in solid stone or metal a natural shape with three dimensions that can be measured and accurately reproduced. Painting is, however, something quite different. Have we not all watched the pavement artist with his little crescent of spectators, and seen how their eyes open in wonder as the slice of salmon on the plate rises up in solid succulent thickness, or Mr. Lloyd George's alert countenance starts into life as the practised fingers juggle with the chalks? Perhaps in the crowd there is an Italian figure-man with a tray of plaster images in the round copied from famous statues. Do the bystanders gaze on these with equal interest? So little are they disposed so to regard the images that the Italian figure-man himself, once so familiar in our streets, is now well-nigh extinct, whereas the pavement artist is not only always with us, but has developed into the picture palace, the ultimate assertion of the supreme attraction for the multitude of the graphic art.

The attractiveness resides largely in the element of mystery, which fascinates in drawing while it is absent from modelled work in the round. The latter represents an object in all its three dimensions in a mass of a suitable material that itself possesses the three dimensions; whereas in the former case there is the illusion of solid form produced upon a surface known all along to be flat. That this should be possible savours of the marvellous, and the admiration of the uncritical spectator is readily excited by work that is really of the most primitive kind. "Better than I saw not who saw the life," wrote the poet Dante of representations of the human figure on the floor of one of the ledges in Purgatory, that can only have been meagre outline drawings like those we now see on the pavement of the cathedral of Siena.

The popularity of the painter's art depends, too, in no small measure on the personal interest connected with it. A fine building or a great public monument of sculpture we accept for what it is in itself. In regarding it we may or may not take account at the moment of its author, but this, in any case, is only noted in passing as an accidental though interesting detail. In the case of a painting, however, the most outstanding fact about it is its authorship. In common parlance the name of the painter stands for the work. Everyone knows what is meant by the *Tiepolo* or the *Gainsborough* of the Scottish National Gallery, but we do not say the *Chantreys* of George Street or the Princes Street



*Adams* or *Playfairs*, but speak of *William Pitt* and the *Register House*. Especially in the days in which we live is there a tendency to exaggerate the personal element in the work of the painter. The common note of the various so-called "movements" in modern painting is independence—the assertion of individuality. Without this we are told the art would stagnate and become orthodox and lifeless. So tender is the artistic public to the idiosyncrasies of the painter that a sort of universal tolerance is claimed for him, so that he may "express himself" in unfettered freedom. We hear, indeed, far too much of this plea. Mere individuality is of no more value in art than in any other sphere, and in any case it is not easy to say where self-expression ends and self-assertion takes its place. Even where there is no self-assertion—no crowing from the top of the little mound, "I am I, damn everybody else"—but rather the expression of a sane and cultured mind, the value in art of "the personal note" may easily be exaggerated, and one of the main purposes of this paper is to show that there have been periods when the arts flourished greatly, though the personal element was altogether in abeyance.

This personal element, as has been said, is to no small extent responsible for the position painting holds in the eyes of the public. This was the case in Italy in the great period of her art. Vasari wrote a collection of *Lives of the Painters, Sculptors, and Architects* of his own time and country, but nobody refers to the fascinating work by its full title. It is always called Vasari's *Lives of the Painters*—for these are the real heroes of the story, made familiar and interesting to us by the wealth of biographical detail he has lavished upon them. In following the history of Italian art throughout this period we are constantly coming on proofs of the popularity and preponderating influence of this art. Ghiberti, in his famous Old Testament gates for the Baptistery, tries to paint in bronze—that is, to secure in the statuary's material—bronze—the effects of perspective and distance, as well as the multiplication of details, that are only suitable to the graphic art. Later on, in the early part of the sixteenth century, at the culminating period of the arts of form in Italy, there is a more striking instance still in the decoration in fresco of the vault of the Sistine Chapel. This building was the State Chapel of the Vatican Palace, which is one of the vastest structures of the kind in the world, erected and embellished by the ambitious prelates of the Renaissance, with the most ample resources in men and materials at their command. In the normal order the chapel would have been a great architectural achievement, adorned, no doubt, by the efforts of the best decorative painters and sculptors of the day, but primarily and essentially, like Mr. Bentley's Westminster Cathedral, *architecture*. Look, however, at what actually happened. The building itself is not architecture at all. It is a plain barn-like structure, with no artistic pretensions of any kind, and the programme of the designer was governed by the idea of providing vast plain spaces of wall and roof for the benefit of the decorative painter. It is the materialisation of Mr. Ruskin's famous paradox about architecture, notable as embodying the very falsest principle ever enunciated about the Fine Arts—the paradox that all the architect is called on to do is to provide a sort of scaffolding or a support and framework for the display of sculpture and painting. When Michelangelo was set to work on the plain flat barrel vault of the chapel he began by painting upon it an imaginary scheme of feigned architecture, the spaces in which he proceeded to fill with his decorative figures and groups. This meant a complete subordination of the architect to the painter, and is a striking object-lesson in the relative position of the arts in this conspicuous period of modern art.

In the Greek world a similar phenomenon can be discerned, though it is not at first sight conspicuous. The relations of painting and sculpture in Greece are not easy to understand, because the former art is hardly represented by extant remains, while sculptured monuments have come down to us in ample numbers. The latter is also the case with architecture, so that we naturally regard the Greeks as good architects and pre-eminent sculptors, their efforts in painting being practically negligible. Yet ancient writers talk far more about their painters than about their carvers or builders, and it is an historical fact that painting seems to have taken the lead of its sister art at all the periods

of change and of advance. The great age of Athenian art is ushered in by the paintings of Polygnotus, not the sculpture of Pheidias, which came a generation later. The painters Zeuxis and Parrhasius precede Scopas and Praxiteles in the creation of the Greek art of the fourth century B.C. The first-named painter is a proof of the exaggerated esteem in which his art was held by the people. He was thronged by crowds at Olympia, gained so much money that he gave away his pictures instead of selling them, and attended the games in a robe on which his name was inwoven in letters of gold. Apelles the painter, not the sculptor Lysippus, is the dominant figure in the art of the age of Alexander. When Aristotle wants to give the name of an artist who represents in his work the highest ethical ideal he instances the painter Polygnotus, not Pheidias, and the special characteristics of the sculpture of Lysippus, by which he modernised the later classical style, were due, we are told, to his following the advice given to him by the painter Eupompus, to draw his inspiration from nature as a whole. In accordance with all this we find in Pliny's account of ancient artists—the *Vasari's Lives* of the classical period—so much said about the painters that the author has to apologise for his volubility.

It may surprise us that the work of Polygnotus attracted so much attention, because from the technical point of view it was extremely primitive. It achieved, however, the miracle that makes the pavement picture a wonder to the passer-by, and produced the illusion of natural forms on a flat surface. That a painted surface should be like the solid objects of the world was so wonderful that this likeness seemed to be the be-all and end-all of the art, and thus is explained the Greek doctrine of painting and sculpture—a doctrine extended to other arts also—that they were based on imitation, or, as the Greeks called it, *μίμησις*. In a very unfortunate moment Plato took "imitation" as the fundamental principle of art, and he handed the doctrine on to Aristotle, who makes it the basis of his treatment of the arts in the *Poetics*. Notice now the curious result. Imitation, *μίμησις*, is made to explain not only painting and sculpture but the dance, music and poetry, and about all of these arts suggestive and interesting remarks are offered by the philosopher. The point, however, is that throughout the whole of this æsthetic treatise, the most important work of the kind that has come down from antiquity, there is no mention of architecture. Architecture, in which the Hellenic genius in art achieved some of its greatest triumphs, is not regarded by Plato and Aristotle as an art at all. Commentators on the *Poetics* do not seem to have noticed this very curious phenomenon. Professor Butcher's well-known edition of the treatise contains no note or explanation of the extraordinary omission. The truth is that Greek æsthetic thinkers were so obsessed with the notion that art was imitation, that any art which, like architecture, failed to satisfy the definition was ignored as if it were not an art at all. This, of course, was an impossible situation, and we find later on architecture recognised as an art with its own principles applied to it, but not brought into line with sculpture and painting. Vitruvius has some very sensible, though not profound, remarks as to the principles of architecture, but does not compare it with its sister arts of form, while these latter have ever since been treated on the lines laid down by the Greeks, and their relation to nature, their imitative character, has always been accepted as fundamental.

It is not difficult, however, to see that when we have certain arts of form appealing to our æsthetic sense through the eye, just as music appeals to us through the ear, common sense demands that we should search for principles that apply to all these arts of form alike, for in the nature of things they must have a great deal in common. Now, if we can clear our minds from this obsession of *μίμησις* such principles are readily discernible. In all these arts, architecture, painting, sculpture, the dance—for this has been aptly defined as "sculpture in motion"—there is an imitative, or to use a better word, a representative element, though it is less in evidence in the case of the first-mentioned than in that of the other arts; but it is not the primary element. Imitation of nature is only a secondary or incidental aim in these arts, or rather only a means to an end. This end, the true aim of the arts just mentioned, is to produce an æsthetic impression by the presentation of actual or simulated solid objects that appeal to our sense of beauty, and also carry with them intellectual and ethical associations

that necessarily give to the ultimate æsthetic impression a certain intellectual and ethical colour. In sculpture and painting these objects are in great part human beings, the higher animals, and natural scenes and products connected with human life, objects extremely varied and exhibiting very subtle and complex qualities. The artist cannot constitute these without constant reference to actual objects in nature similar to those through which he desires to produce his æsthetic impression, and this necessary *reference to nature* has given rise to the mistaken idea that the direct *imitation of nature* is in and for itself the primary aim of the representative arts. Any level-headed friend of Plato might have emancipated the philosopher from this tyranny of the *μίμησις* theory by taking him into the Parthenon, and asking him what mortal woman the statue of Athene by Pheidias imitated. As a fact, the ideal types created by the Greek sculptors were fashioned after the most careful and prolonged study of nature, but they were born of the intellect and the imagination and not really *imitated* from anything to be seen in the visible world.

So, too, with Architecture. The architectural monument appeals to the æsthetic sense first through its mass, then through its proportions and the relations of its parts in shape, light and shade, and colour ; and also, on the intellectual and ethical side, through the human interest attaching to it as constituted and arranged to serve the needs of the social and religious life of man. Now these primary effects of mass, proportion, light and shade, etc., we have learned to know in nature. Imitation is so far an element in architectural effect that in architecture we receive, as it were, a reminder of natural forms sufficient to touch chords of association in our minds. Architectural masses appeal to our sense of the sublime because in a far-off way they recall to us those aspects of the material creation on which this sense has been nurtured. From the vast spaces of nature, her colossal masses of mountain or cliff, we derive the inspiring, ennobling impression of sublimity, and this same impression we receive from the artistically treated masses and spaces of a great building. The Romans thought the Pantheon was so called because the vast dome of it suggested the vault of heaven, the abode of all the gods, and a similar comparison was made in the case of the cupola of St. Sophia at Constantinople. The effect of a great unbroken mass of masonry a hundred feet or more in height, like the side walls of the Papal Palace at Avignon, reproduces in our mind the impression of the mountain cliff, making up by its sheerness and isolation for its inferiority in measurable size. This intimate relation, in spite of enormous measurable differences, is testified to by Shakespeare in some of the finest lines ever penned by man :

The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,  
The solemn temples, the great globe itself—

words which associate the monument reared by human hands with the vast bulk of the terrestrial mass, the impressiveness of the human production being made more clear and emphatic by composition and treatment.

Grandeur is the noblest of architectural effects, and one reason why, in spite of popular prejudice in favour of painting, architecture may claim supremacy among the arts of form is the fact that in its quality of grandeur it makes a universal appeal. Architecture is the most democratic of the arts. In view of the popularity of the pavement artist, and the attractiveness of the barrel organ, this may seem a paradoxical statement, but the truth is that the fascination of painting and music is something superficial—that is to say, it is only certain showy qualities that are not of the essence of the arts that catch the public eye or ear. For genuine æsthetic appreciation of the effects they produce when at their best an amount of artistic culture is necessary that belongs only to the few. People will say they are fond of pictures, when all they really care for is the presentation of the story or subject. The catchy tune in music makes a universal appeal, but how many really appreciate the æsthetic qualities, say, of a late Beethoven quartette? Whistler said a wicked thing once, that is too anti-democratic in these days to be more than whispered at a quite private gathering, or, if printed, to be set up in any but the smallest type. He was asked to subscribe to a fund for opening the National Gallery to the

working classes on Sundays. He said he would not do this, but would gladly contribute towards their exclusion on weekdays. It was a whimsical way of expressing his fine sense of the honour of his art, which he regarded as stained when its true message was entirely missed.

But of architecture we may fairly claim that it is the best in it that makes the most direct and the widest appeal. Its highest efforts materialise in the great public building. The more public it is, the more numerous, that is to say, are the sections of the people whose lives are affected by it, the more ample will be its proportions the more imposing its mass, and as a consequence the sublime impression it produces will be more forcible and more ennobling. To receive the impression needs only some natural intelligence and an open mind, not any special æsthetic training. There are millions who could be made to feel the awe-inspiring grandeur of the exterior of St. Paul's of London or of the interior of Mr. Bentley's Westminster Cathedral, while one would despair of making any of them appreciate the refined beauty of a Corot landscape. Many of us must have been struck in reading the other day the moving appeal with which Mr. Bevin concluded his presentation of the case of the dockers for an advance in wages. He was pleading on behalf of unskilled labourers not high in the grade of manual workers, but he urged that "Labour had growing aspirations, and cultural development meant as much to it as to the middle and upper classes." If the claim were refused, he said, they "must go to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education, and tell them to close the schools; tell them that industry can only be run by reducing labour to the pure fodder and animal basis. Teach the people nothing, and let them learn nothing, for to create in their minds aspirations of the love of the beautiful, and at the same time to deny them the wherewithal to satisfy them, was a false policy and a wrong method, and it would be better to keep them in dark ignorance." The phrase "aspirations of the love of the beautiful" is in such a connection a striking one, and one feels that nothing would be more fitted to nourish this aspiration and direct it to the noblest results, than the great architectural monument.

In this sense architecture is the most democratic of the arts, at any rate of the arts of form. It is also democratic in another sense, and this carries us forward to a new set of considerations.

In connection with architecture, especially in the form of the great public building, there is brought about a community in the arts, the results of which alike on the æsthetic and on the social sides are of the most salutary description. Architecture under these conditions becomes in a true sense the "mistress art," presiding over the operations of the so-called decorative or industrial arts, the harmonious co-operation of all involving the wide diffusion of the element of beauty over the community at large. One of the main contentions of this Paper is that the truly artistic epoch is one in which the sense of beauty is so widely diffused that there is an interest and a charm about all the material apparatus of life, so that nothing as a rule is made without it being made at the same time pleasing to the artistic sense. Such an epoch is not necessarily one in which there are great single achievements in the arts of painting and sculpture. Indeed, it may be said that the wide diffusion of art of the homely kind does not, as a rule, correspond in point of time with the production of the independent masterpieces, and these masterpieces have often a baleful effect upon the simpler decorative and industrial work. The true inspiring and guiding influence for these is architecture, and they have flourished best when not painting and sculpture, but architecture was the dominant art.

In support of this contention that the truly artistic epoch is one in which the operations of the arts are all co-ordinated for the task of making the world a place of æsthetic charm and beauty, reference may be made to an address delivered in Edinburgh some thirty years ago by William Morris. The principle for which Morris always contended is, in his own words, that "it is reasonable and right that men should strive to make the useful wares which they produce beautiful just as nature does. . . . To secure art in useful wares, in short, is not frivolity, but a part of the serious business of life." The synonym for this kind of art is architecture, and he goes on to say that "painting is of little use, and sculpture of less, except where their works form a part of architecture" . . . . "Archi-

ture," he says. "I look upon first as the foundation of all the arts, and, next, as an all-embracing art." The complete artistic work, the true unit of the (formative) arts, is, he says, "a building with all its due ornament and furniture . . . the dwelling of some group of people, well built, beautiful, suitable for its purpose, and duly ornamented and furnished, so as to express the kind of life which the inmates live. Or it may be some noble and splendid public edifice, built to last for ages, and it also duly ornamented so as to express the life and aspirations of the citizens: in itself a great piece of history embodying their efforts to raise a house worthy of noble lives; its decoration an epic wrought for the pleasure and education not of the present generation only, but of many generations to come. . . . This is," Morris affirms, "the unit of the art, this house, this church, this town-hall, built and ornamented by the harmonious efforts of a free people: by no possibility could one man do it, however gifted he might be" . . . though he may design all the subsidiary work, he cannot execute it . . . "and something of his genius there must be in the other members of the great body that raises the complete work: millions on millions of strokes of hammer and chisel, of the gouge, of the brush, of the shuttle, are embodied in that work of art, and in every one of them there is either intelligence to help the master, or stupidity to foil him. The very masons laying day by day their due tale of rubble and ashlar may help him to fill the souls of all beholders with satisfaction, or may make his paper design a folly or a nullity . . . if they are working backed by intelligent tradition, their work is the expression of their harmonious co-operation . . . so that no one from the master designer downwards could say, This is *my work*, but everyone could say truly, This is *our work*. Try to conceive if you can the mass of pleasure which the production of such a work of art would give to all concerned in making it, through years and years it may be (for such work cannot be hurried), and when made there it is for a perennial pleasure to the citizens, to look at, to use, to care for from day to day and year to year."

"Is this," Morris concludes, "the mere dream of an idealist? No, not at all: such works were once produced . . . in some such way have the famous buildings of the world been raised."

It will be found that the periods when all the arts have worked together to this delightful æsthetic result have *not* been those when sculpture and painting produced independent masterpieces. It is a mistake constantly made to assume that in a great period for the representative arts, such as Greece in the time of Pericles or Alexander and Italy in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, style and treatment in the minor arts must have been on an equally high level. The decoration by Pheidias of the shield of Athene in the statue in the Parthenon is quite faulty in style because it assumes that the shield would never be moved. The surface is treated just as if it were an immovable circular panel, with a figure composition such as a painter would display upon it with a fixed upper and lower limit, whereas a mobile disc like a shield has no top or bottom to it, and should be ornamented in an "all round" fashion. The case of Italian Majolica is a similar one. Here the painter is, as usual at such epochs, the lord of all, and figure pictures with all the effects aimed at in the art are displayed on the circular surfaces of plates, which in their very nature are things to turn and turn about, so that in practice these figures would constantly be seen standing on their heads. The love of the Greeks for representations of the human figure led them to use this motive for the decoration of the rounded surfaces of their vases, where the figures must necessarily be distorted, with parts of them disappearing from view on the receding surfaces. These were mistakes in style due to an abuse of naturalism inevitable when the representative arts are supreme. In point of style Hispano-Mauresque pottery is immeasurably superior to either Italian Majolica or figured Attic vases, for the round dish, with its lustre-glaze and simple, unpretentious ornamental motives disposed in concentric circles or on a radiating scheme, is exactly what decorated pottery should be, the art following its own laws without anything imposed on it from outside by any other art. The Arab craftsman had no pictures or statues about him to put him wrong.

This happy condition of things prevailed generally in the mediæval epoch when the only prominent art was architecture, and it is the secret of what has been justly termed "the unerring mediæval instinct

of sty'e." The spirit of mediæval decorative art is expressed in a remarkable artistic treatise written by a monk'sh craftsman about the year 1100, known as the *Schedula Diversarum Artium* of the Monk Theophilus. It is perhaps the most interesting book ever written on the subject of the arts of form. It conveys the thoughts of an ecclesiastic vowed to the service of religion in its most ascetic phase, but at the same time all aglow with an enthusiasm for beauty, the inspiration of which he believed came to him from on high. Artistic knowledge and craftsmanship were to him a part of the original heritage of man as he was made in the image of the Great Creative Artist of the Universe, and to win back this heritage by patient labour and contriving was a religious duty, in the fulfilment of which the Holy Spirit would Himself give constant aid. This mediæval monk was a craftsman, interested above all in materials and technical processes, and he cares very little about art as representative. Not only does he ignore completely the "artistic individuality" we hear so much about to-day, but he never talks about nature or the imitation or "treatment" thereof. Symbolism and religious edification lie outside his range of ideas, and he bases everything on workshop practice. In this monastic workshop, whose homely construction and fittings he describes, we are invited to see the gold and silver and bronze, the coloured earths, the glass stained with metallic oxides, all taking shape in dainty or sumptuous forms, and coming together in discreet but opulent display, till, as he phrases it, the Abbey Church which they bedeck and furnish "shall shine like the Garden of Paradise." For to the mind of the pious craftsman this church is a microcosm—a little world in miniature that has been made all glorious within by the creative skill of man—a creative skill, however, that is only his in so far as man shares the nature of the Divine Artist who has fashioned in all its beauty the vast macrocosm of the universe.

To Theophilus the unit of art was the same as it was to William Morris, the great public building, the Abbey Church that was to house, and to express the spiritual life of, a community. Architecture was in this period of the history of North-Western Europe indisputably the "mistress art," and the place of the carver and colourist was one of subordination. At such a period sculpture and painting, as so-called "fine" or "noble" arts—to borrow phrases not older than the Renaissance—have no existence. No carver dreams of setting up his sculptured figure on a pedestal as an independent creation, no limner wrenches his storied panel from its architectural setting to frame it on a wall apart. In such an artistic atmosphere there is not only nothing to prick the artist's individuality into action, but the personal element in the work is hardly existent. The craftsman's individuality is merged in the general artistic activity of the community at large. He has, however, lost his life only to gain a fuller vitality as a factor in a great organised productive energy. At such periods the art of construction has achieved its greatest triumphs, in the sublime mass of the Egyptian pyramid, in the severe proportions of the early Hellenic temple of the sixth century B.C., in Santa Sophia, in a Romanesque abbey church such as Durham, and in the Gothic cathedrals of Central France. These works are the embodiments of the ideals of their own ages. They are not individual inventions, but they incorporate the needs, the aspirations, the faith, of whole communities in forms moulded and perfected by style. The same spirit pervaded the operations of the minor arts. These were all frankly decorative, but the laws which should govern this class of operations were so well observed, so busy within the set limits was the fancy, so just the taste of the craftsman, that, take them all in all, these periods were for the arts that make things beautiful the most flourishing that the world has ever seen.

For such conditions to be realised again in the modern world two or three advantages would have to be secured. The most indispensable of these is perhaps the one which in present circumstances seems least likely to materialise. This is the spirit of disinterested delight on the part of the craftsman in the sort of manual work that produced in old time results so pleasing. There is very little outward sign of this in the modern world of labour, but it does not follow that it might not be revived. A master blacksmith, pretty well advanced in life, was explaining once that when he was a young journeyman he and his fellows used to take a real interest in their craft, and to look out for, and take advantage of, any opportunity the material and the process in hand might offer to get a touch of quaintness or

beauty or ornament into their work. He had himself, he said, the same feeling still of the artistic possibilities of hammered iron, but as to the young workmen of the present day—but here let us pause lest a word be dropped to which in the sacred name of Labour exception might be taken.

Another preliminary measure would be to deal with the picture painter in the same honorific but slightly ironical fashion in which Plato proposed to act towards the poets. It should be explained to him quietly, as Plato explained to the bards he wished to exclude from his ideal republic, that he is a person of the very highest qualities, worthy of almost divine honours which he will find people in general only too eager to pay him. He is, however, too fascinating a being to be allowed to cast his dangerous glamour over the humble craftsmen who are to people our new republic of art. Hence we will load him with compliments but ask him to favour us by making his home elsewhere.

Having in this way exorcised the alluring spirits of individuality and naturalism, we would install Architecture on her throne as the "mistress art," and make her the inspiring and guiding influence for all the rest. She would institute in the first place control, making the artists who help her to carry out her noble, her essentially human and democratic task, feel that they are only parts of a great whole, through their relation to which they themselves attain greatness, and schooling them till their work, simple and limited as it may be, achieves the distinction of style. In the next place, architecture would diffuse among all the subsidiary crafts that sense of material and process which was the basis of success in the decorative arts of mediæval times. For if we look back over the history of these industrial arts, we see each phase of them beginning in the workshop, at the forge or the bench, by the potter's wheel, or on the plasterer's platform. A workman fabricates a cottage, a piece of furniture, a utensil, an implement, simply because there is a demand for such a thing. He makes it to fit the use; and as he is familiar with the method of its employment, so he adapts its form and structure to the purposes it will have to serve. So far there is nothing artistic in the operation, but the artist in the man, though he knows it not, is beginning to awake. Let us suppose, for the sake of simplifying matters, that we are dealing with the craftsmen of a mediæval village, and that the demand is for a half-timber cottage for a chantry priest, and new iron hinges for the church door. The technique of the half-timber cottage is itself of interest. We are not, however, concerned with the technique, but only with the manner in which a certain element of art and beauty finds its way into the structure while it is in process of fabrication, so that the maker becomes an artist without thinking of it. The mere process of manufacture, with the use of the two boldly contrasted materials, wood and plaster, results in itself in a pleasing decorative effect, so that there is really no need for any special enrichment, and none such appears in many quaint and charming bits of old half-timber work in different parts of the country. Some ornamentation is, however, very commonly present, and the genesis of it is interesting to trace.

In its simpler forms it is a spontaneous growth out of the structure, or, perhaps, at times is scarcely other than the natural marks of manipulation on a material, rendered a little more emphatic and regular. The craftsman was not influenced by any doctrine about the artistic value of adornment, but he had certain natural instincts that led him to supplement in this way the piecing together of his fabric. To take some obvious instances of this, we may see that every projecting end struck him as a thing not to be cut off and left raw and plain, but to be hewn into some shape that would give pleasure to the eye; every change of direction in a surface seemed to him to need some added feature that should act as a "stop" and accentuate the point of divergence: every large unbroken surface suggested the introduction of some diversifying details in form and colour. What the shape of feature or detail should be depended on the amount of time or fancy the craftsman was able or willing to give to it. The ultimate form was a matter of indifference; the really artistic point in the whole process was the natural, almost inevitable growth of the ornament out of the structure.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the village street, the smith is manipulating his iron bands into the required hinges for the church door. The door is heavy, and the hinge must grip it firmly, and it



will add to the strength of the woodwork if the iron spreads over it so as to form a sort of armature. He begins, perhaps, by merely splitting the width of his iron strip in half, and spreading the two parts outward, so as to broaden the hold upon the woodwork. This spreading is, however, managed in such a way as to satisfy the eye as well as secure the necessary width of attachment. The branching ends of the hinge will certainly be brought round with a sweep that represents a distinct though hardly conscious effort after richness and grace of line. The points of them will need to be nailed down firmly to the door, and for this purpose will be flattened out and pierced in the centre for the bolt. The main strip will also have to be pierced at intervals for attachments to the oaken planks ; and if these holes are punched through while the iron is red-hot, the strip will be forced out a little at the sides at each place where they come. From the form thus arrived at, as from a germ, the whole development of the most elaborate of the really good mediæval door-hinges naturally unfolds itself. The subdivision of the material, or the addition to it at intervals, by welding, of corresponding branches ; the flattening out of beds where the bolt-heads may conveniently lie ; then the evolution from the branches of a beautiful composition of scroll-work covering the timber with a well-balanced scheme of convolutions ; the emergence from the mere flattened bed of the distinct form of a lozenge or quatrefoil or rosette—all this artistic play and movement, the result of which is some lovely mediæval door-hinge, like those at Turvey or Leighton in Bedfordshire, represents the gradual growth of the artist in the workman, under the stimulus of the pliant suggestive material that is under his hand. This is how the art of British ironwork grew up—a thing essentially of the hammer and punch and anvil—conditioned throughout, first, by the ever-present considerations of use, and next by the ever-present artistic sense of the manipulator, who works out in the direction of beauty every hint which the material and process afford.

If we could revive this artistic sense in the manipulator—and Mr. Bevin, we must remember, has credited even the docker with a potential love of the beautiful—if we could train him through material and through process, and teach him to look up to architecture as his mistress, we might go far to solve a problem which for three-quarters of a century has baffled the official British mind. The problem has been how to restore among modern civilised peoples the instinct which they have lost for the right handling of materials with a view to decorative effect. This lamentable fact, the death of the old tradition of art in common things, came prominently into view at the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park in 1851. It is remarkable that that Exhibition was held only fifty years after a time when, at the end of the eighteenth century, the tradition of the industrial arts was still a living thing in Western Europe, and yet one may doubt whether, with the exception, of course, of the late Queen Victoria's Jubilee presents, any such collection of horrors in the form of objects exhibiting every conceivable artistic fault was ever brought together in the world. The impression produced by this exposure of artistic incompetence in the minor but most valuable and important arts was in some quarters a strong one, and led to the formation of the Science and Art Department, and the foundation of schools and museums to teach and encourage the decorative and industrial arts. It so happens that the British authorities of the day could dispose of the services of two singularly well-equipped advisers—Gottfried Semper, the author of the famous classic work on *Style in the Technical and Constructive Arts*, and Alfred Stevens, who for application in practice of these principles of style is one of the great artists of the world. Yet for all this the authorities went wrong from the first in regarding ornament as a dead thing, and in treating decorative art as a sort of mysterious entity that can be detached from or joined on to the apparatus of common life just as we choose. No good can come of looking at ornament as if it were a dead thing belonging to the past, or on art as an independent thing to be used or let alone at will. Whatever ornament and art are, or ought to be, they should not be looked upon as "historic" or "applied." Ornament, which, as we have just seen, should be something fresh and growing, springing almost unbidden into life, in as intimate relation to structure as the flower to the plant, when it becomes "historic" is just a dried and pressed botanical specimen, classified and inventoried, and kept.

nicely gummed at the back, between the covers of Owen Jones's *Grammar of Ornament*, till it can be stuck on to some object that it is naïvely intended to turn in this way from a work of utility to one of art. The community at large was to be treated in similar fashion, and "art" was to be "applied" to it as a sort of mustard plaster that would produce a pleasant titillation in the epidermis of the victim. The museums that were founded and stocked were too miscellaneous in their contents and presented too many examples faulty in style to effect much in the improvement of taste, while the fact that the schools taught painting and sculpture in their advanced forms tended to foster in the students of design false ideals. Whereas style in the decorative and industrial arts is only to be secured on the condition of subordination of the part to the whole, the instinct of the picture painter is to assert in the most uncompromising way his absolute independence. He claims for his work that it is in itself the whole—the only thing that matters. He has no idea of subjecting his design to any conditions outside itself. Furthermore, in painting and sculpture as practised in the modern spirit, the watchword is "nature," and naturalism may be almost described as the poison of decorative art. The only chance for a genuine revival of style in decoration is to separate schools where are taught painting and sculpture, as represented in our periodical exhibitions, from schools which aim at sound instruction in the decorative and industrial arts, and to place these latter schools under the control of architecture recognised in this sense as pre-eminently the Mistress Art.

Both in London and in Edinburgh this might have been easily accomplished. Architecture is, of course, officially recognised by the Royal Academy at Burlington House, and officially taught in its schools. To what extent the architectural department in these schools has been a success we need not inquire, but the views of one who for many years knew it better than anyone else were never very optimistic. By the side of her showy sisters, Painting and Sculpture, there is something almost Cinderella-like in the position there of the art the claim of which to magistral rank has been urged in this paper. When the School of Design was formed at South Kensington, it would have been a move of great promise to set architecture there in the midst of the operations of the subsidiary arts which it would inspire and guide. Something like the community of the arts of which William Morris had a vision might have been secured.

In Edinburgh there was a better chance still of effecting such a reform, because the whole question of artistic education in the Scottish capital came up for review a decade or so ago. Here there was an established school of painting and sculpture under the Royal Scottish Academy, that had fine traditions at its back, and was doing admirable work in fostering those qualities in Scottish art that had given it its distinctive position in the artistic world. There was also a newly founded architectural school that, being necessarily without traditions, could have taken any place assigned to it in a well-balanced comprehensive scheme. It would have been a bold step, and one which the responsible authorities were too cautious to take, to supply the Royal Scottish Academy with proper funds and appliances for carrying on and extending, perhaps by provincial schools, its excellent and thoroughly national work on its own traditional lines, but to keep it quite apart from the newly constituted school of design, which should not embrace within its scope the forms of art on which the Royal Scottish Academy had specialised. Of the new school Architecture should have been the recognised head, presiding over all those operations of the so-called decorative and industrial arts that would combine to make the objects that compose our surroundings things of beauty and interest. The opportunity was a very favourable one: but it was lost, it is to be feared, beyond recall. Without some fundamental reform of the kind, it is difficult to see how the problem referred to above can ever be satisfactorily solved.



## PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND PRACTICE.

Members are aware that the Council have from time to time passed Resolutions with a view to indicating the proper professional practice to be followed in specific cases, and in the President's "Message" of July last, published by order of the Council in the JOURNAL of August last, occurs the following paragraph:—

"It has long been in my mind that a definite Code of Professional Conduct would be very helpful to our younger, perhaps to all our members. Such a Code, drawn up by Guadet on behalf of the Société Centrale des Architectes Français in 1895, has been adopted by every Society of Architects in France; and a draft on similar lines will be laid before you for approval in due course."

Such a draft was duly prepared, and circulated to the Allied Societies and Standing Committees for their observations thereon. It has been most favourably received by the Profession; the suggestions made for amplification or amendment have been helpful, and for the most part have been adopted by the Council. With regard to the payment of fees for Quantities by the Contractor instead of directly by the Employer, representations have been made by five Allied Societies that this practice is followed, in the areas they administer, by architects of unblemished reputation; the Council have therefore slightly modified the original draft to meet these cases. But they remind members that this procedure is not in accordance with the best practice, and that a Resolution on the subject has appeared in the KALENDAR (p. 60) for some twelve years past. They therefore trust that the Councils of Allied Societies in whose districts the custom still prevails will do their best to discourage and abolish it, since it is very undesirable that monetary relations of any kind should exist between architects and the contractors they control on their clients' behalf.

Save for the foregoing objection, and some minor criticisms which are nearly all met by the draft now submitted, the document has been generally approved.

The Council have approved the document as amended and printed below, and have ordered it to be printed in the KALENDAR in place of the Resolutions on Professional Conduct on page 60.

### PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND PRACTICE.

*In order to place on record the considerations which govern the conduct of honourable Architects and the customs accepted and observed by the Architectural Profession, the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects declares the practice of Architects to be as follows:—*

#### I.

##### PERSONAL AND INTER-PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS.

1. The Architect is both an artist and a technician. He designs the construction, the internal and external proportions, arrangements, decoration and accessories of buildings, directs their execution and regulates the expenditure upon them.

2. The profession of Architecture is liberal and uncommercial. It is incompatible with the business of a Contractor, Manufacturer, dealer in (or agent for) materials used in buildings, or of an Auctioneer or House Agent.

3. An Architect is remunerated solely by his fees, and is debarred from any other source of profit in connection with the works and duties entrusted to him.

4. An Architect who owns, or has a commercial interest in, any material, device or invention used in building informs his client thereof and obtains his sanction before permitting it to be used in works executed under his direction.

5. An Architect does not act as a tradesman or

broker; and accepts no business which involves his giving or receiving discounts or commissions.

6. An Architect does not publicly advertise, nor offer his services, by means of circulars or other means of publicity employed in trade and commerce. But he may publish illustrations or descriptions of his work, since these contribute to the common fund of knowledge. He may exhibit his name on buildings in course of execution (providing it is done in an unostentatious manner) and may sign them when completed in a way similar to that adopted by sculptors of repute.

7. An Architect declines to obtain work or clients by means of presents, commissions, reductions of his fees, or inducements to agents and subordinates. He refuses all secret dealings with regard to a client or a prospective client.

8. He abstains from seeking in any way the clients of another architect or the appointments held by him. Should he be called upon to accept such clients or appointments by reason of the death, retirement, or rightful termination of the employment of another architect, he considers himself the guardian of the honour and interests of his predecessor.

9. An Architect recognises the professional standing of his brother architects, and admits the right to that title of all who honourably exercise the profession. He is careful to observe towards them the courteous consideration due from one artist to another.

10. The copyright of an architect's design is the

property of the author, and is scrupulously respected by other architects. His knowledge and experience should nevertheless be always at the service of his profession.

11. When an architect employs other architects as draughtsmen or assistants he gives them his aid and counsel and treats them with the consideration proper to members of the profession.

## II.

### OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS CLIENTS.

12. The architect devotes his whole ability to protecting the just interests of his clients. He uses all his knowledge, skill, and experience in designing the buildings entrusted to him, directing their execution, regulating the expenditure upon them, and giving his opinion and advice.

13. But he does not lend himself, even at his clients' request, to proceedings calculated to infringe the rights of others, nor undertake operations which appear to him likely to injure his reputation, to compromise others, or to lead to accidents. In such cases he intimates to his clients that he finds himself unable to carry out their instructions.

14. He also notifies his clients when their alterations to proposed works are likely to increase the cost thereof.

15. An Architect is remunerated by his clients (and by them alone) by means of fees, under the Conditions of Engagement stated in the Scale of Professional Charges authorised by the Royal Institute of British Architects. He accepts no remuneration or payment of any kind whatever from builders, merchants and buyers or vendors of land or property, under contract with his clients unless with their full knowledge and approval.\*

16. In connection with current repairs, administration, and other matters in which charges are made for time and services rendered, the architect usually delivers to his clients periodical accounts of his fees. For new works, and for important alterations to or renovations of existing buildings, he receives interim payments on account of his fees as laid down in the Scale of Professional Charges above mentioned.

17. An Architect declines judicial functions in a case in which he has already expressed an opinion on the subject of the dispute. When he is nominated as an Assessor or Arbitrator he ceases to represent his clients, and acts impartially.

## III.

### OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS CONTRACTORS AND OPERATIVES.

18. An Architect exerts his personal influence to establish harmony, cordiality and good faith between all those engaged upon his works. In so far as is compatible with his duty to his clients, he endeavours to save expense to the Contractors and labour to the

operatives, encourages them to take an interest in the work, and receives with courtesy their technical suggestions for its improvement.

19. An Architect interprets the conditions of a Contract with impartial fairness as between his client and the Contractor. He supplies the Contractor with clear instructions, and informs him of his intentions by means of drawings, or otherwise, at as early a stage of the works as possible in order that the Contractor may make favourable arrangements for their execution.

20. An Architect does not permit the insertion of any clause in tenders, bills of quantities, or other contract documents which provides for payment to be made to him by the Contractor, whatever may be the consideration, unless with the full knowledge and approval of his client.

21. An Architect does not accept any discount, gift, or business commission from contractors and tradesmen, whether employed upon his works or not.

22. Unless specially so requested by his clients, he does not undertake the payment of contractors.

23. Should an Architect have occasion to reprove a contractor or foreman, he does so in such a way as not to impair their authority with the operatives.

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### INCREASE OF ENTRANCE FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS: PRIVY COUNCIL'S SANCTION.

AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WHITEHALL,  
*the 21st day of June, 1920.*

By the Lords of His Majesty's Most Honourable  
Privy Council.

WHEREAS the Royal Institute of British Architects did, in accordance with the provisions of the 33rd Article of the Charter of Incorporation of the said Institute, by Resolution passed at a Special General Meeting of the said Institute held on the 10th day of May, 1920, and confirmed at a subsequent Special General Meeting of the said Institute held on the 7th day of June, 1920, resolve:—

“That in order to provide funds to meet the increase in expenditure due to the general advance in prices an addition of one guinea be made to all entrance fees and subscriptions of Members and contributions of Licentiates, and that the necessary steps be taken to obtain the sanction of the Privy Council to such revision of Bye-law 17 as is required to give effect to this Resolution.”

And whereas by the said 33rd Article it is provided that no Bye-laws shall be of any force or validity whatever unless and until they have been approved by the Lords of the Council.

And whereas a revised Bye-law in substitution for Bye-law 17 has been submitted to the Lords of the Council.

Now, THEREFORE, Their Lordships, having taken the said revised Bye-law (a copy whereof is here-

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\* In certain districts it is an admitted practice for Architects who take out the quantities themselves to be paid for them through the builder.

unto annexed) into consideration, are pleased to allow the same. ALMERIC FITZROY.

*REVISED BYE-LAW REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING ORDER OF COUNCIL.*

*Bye-law 17.*

*The amounts of entrance fees and subscriptions shall be from time to time determined by Resolution of the Royal Institute.*

- (a) *The entrance fee of each Fellow shall not exceed six guineas, nor his annual subscription five guineas. In the case of a Fellow elected from the Class of Associates, his entrance fee shall not exceed three guineas. Provided always that the Council may during their pleasure dispense with the payment of an entrance fee in the case of Non-Metropolitan Fellows.*
- (b) *The entrance fee of each Associate shall not exceed four guineas, nor his annual subscription three guineas.*
- (c) *The entrance fee of each Honorary Associate shall be at least three guineas, which shall be appropriated to the Library fund, and his annual subscription shall be three guineas.*
- (d) *A Licentiate shall pay an annual contribution of two guineas and for this shall be entitled (1) to receive the Journal and Kalendar of the Royal Institute. (2) to use the Institute premises, subject to any regulations or restrictions that the Council may make from time to time.*

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

*Monday, 5th July, 1920.*

**MODEL PUBLIC HOUSE COMPETITION.**—The President announced that the Court of the Brewers' Company had presented to the Royal Institute a sum of £500 to be devoted to the payment of premiums in a competition for the design of a Model Public House. The President has consented to act as Hon. Assessor.

**THE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.**—The Council have approved of the formation of a Committee of the Board, confined to teachers, for the consideration of internal school subjects.

**EXEMPTION FROM THE FINAL EXAMINATION.**—On the recommendation of the Board, the Council have granted exemption from the Final Examination (subject to the limitations and conditions previously announced) to the successful students who have taken a five years' Diploma or Degree course at the Architectural Association, London, and the School of Architecture, Liverpool University.

**THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.**—The Council have approved of the holding of Entrance Examinations in Drawing and Geometry at the "Recognised Schools" and will accept a pass in these Examinations as exempting from the Preliminary Examination of the R.I.B.A.

**THE INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.**—Exemption from the Intermediate Examination is to be limited to students of "Recognised Schools" who have passed through a full time three years' course. Written examinations in the History of Architecture and in Building Construction are to be part of the course in all "Recognised Schools" for exemption from the Intermediate Examination.

**ANNUAL EXHIBITIONS OF SCHOOL DESIGN WORK.**—All schools "recognised" for exemption from the Intermediate and Final Examinations are to submit annually for exhibition at the R.I.B.A. (a) four designs (one showing construction) from each of the students who are passed by the school for the Final Examination in the previous Session, and (b) one design from each of the students passed for the Intermediate Examination.

**GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON BUILDING.**—The Stoppage of Building Committee is pursuing its enquiry into the effects of the recent restrictions on building, and, with the approval of the Council, is inviting kindred societies and the representatives of business interests affected to appoint members to serve on the Committee with a view to organising a public protest against the restrictive legislation which is hampering the industry.

**THE OTTAWA GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS COMPETITION.**—The Council decided to brief counsel to appear at Ottawa in the action brought against the Canadian Government by the competitors in the first competition held in 1914.

**INCREASE OF ENTRANCE FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.**—The Council received an intimation that the Privy Council had sanctioned the amendment of the bye-laws to permit an increase in entrance fees and subscriptions.

**WESTMINSTER ABBEY FUND.**—The Council voted a contribution of 100 guineas to the fund for the repair of Westminster Abbey.

### **Masters of Recognised Schools and Private Practice.**

The Council, on the recommendation of the Board of Architectural Education, have passed the following resolution: That no Professor or Master of a "Recognised" School should be debarred from general practice.

### **The R.I.B.A. Model Form of Contract.**

The Form of Agreement and Schedule of Conditions for Building Contracts, which with some slight modification has been in use since 1903, has been revised by a Committee of the Institute with the assistance of their legal advisers, and the revised document, entitled "Model Form of Agreement and Schedule of Conditions for Building Contracts," is now published and on sale at the Institute at the price of 1s. 6d. per copy. This revision has been drawn up to meet modern conditions and as a model to be submitted to the client's solicitors. The form will be known by its short title, "The Model Form of Contract."

# STATE-AIDED HOUSING SCHEMES: REVISED SCALES OF ARCHITECTS' AND QUANTITY SURVEYORS' FEES.

As a result of lengthy negotiations between representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Scottish Board of Health, the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Institute of Scottish Architects, and the Society of Architects a revised scale of charges for Housing schemes has now been agreed upon and issued. The final negotiations on behalf of the architectural bodies were conducted by Mr. J. S. Gibson [F.] and Sir Charles Ruthen [F.], Vice-President of the Society of Architects. The following letters, exchanged between Mr. E. R. Forber, acting for the Ministry of Health, and Sir Charles Ruthen, acting for the architectural bodies, explain the final stage of the negotiations and contain important qualifying provisions agreed to by both parties:—

*Ministry of Health, 22nd July 1920.*

DEAR SIR CHARLES RUTHEN.—With reference to the conference you had this morning with the Accountant-General and myself regarding the point reserved in the Memorandum as to Architects' fees, we agreed as follows:

1. Where it is proposed by a Local Authority or Public Utility Society to employ a single architect for over 250 houses the Ministry are to be consulted before any arrangements as to fees are made.

2. Up to 500 houses the Ministry will agree that the scale as it stands will apply.

3. For schemes containing more than 500 houses the Ministry will consider each case on its merits, but before giving a decision they will consult the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Society of Architects.

I shall be glad to hear that you agree that this correctly represents the conclusions at which we arrived.—Yours sincerely,

E. R. FORBER.

*H.M. Office of Works, Westminster, S.W.1.  
24th July 1920.*

DEAR MR. FORBER.—I have your letter of the 22nd inst., and agree that the points reserved in the Memorandum as to Architects' fees were settled at the conference I had at the Ministry with yourself and the Accountant-General on the morning of the 22nd inst. in the manner set out in detail in your letter, that is to say:—

1. Where it is proposed by a Local Authority or Public Utility Society to employ a single architect for over 250 houses the Ministry are to be consulted before any arrangements as to fees are made.

2. Up to 500 houses the Ministry will agree that the scale as it stands will apply.

3. For schemes containing more than 500 houses the Ministry will consider each case on its merits, but before giving a decision they will consult the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Society of Architects.

It is, of course, agreed that the term "single architect" shall mean a single architect or firm of architects, and that the scale as published stands for any number of houses, where more than one architect or firm of architects is employed.

Mr. James S. Gibson, F.R.I.B.A., concurs in this agreement, and I am pleased to know that this very difficult matter has been so amicably settled.

I have communicated the above settlement to the

Secretary of the Royal Institute and the Secretary of the Society of Architects.—I am, yours sincerely,

E. R. Forber, Esq.,

CHARLES T. RUTHEN.

The Ministry of Health.

The Revised Scales are set out as follows in the General Housing Memorandum No. 31, dated from the Ministry of Health 8th July 1920:—

## Fees payable to Architects and Quantity Surveyors in connection with State-aided Housing Schemes.

### REVISED SCALES AND CONDITIONS

The Minister of Health has had under consideration the question of the fees payable to Architects and Quantity Surveyors in private practice for professional work in connection with State-aided housing schemes, and has decided that the scales of fees and the arrangements laid down in General Housing Memorandum No. 4, issued in September, 1919, shall be revised in certain respects. The revised scales are set out below, and have been framed on the assumption that properly qualified members of the respective professions will be employed.

No charge will be allowed in the Housing Assisted Scheme Accounts in respect of the preparation of schemes which are not approved by the Ministry of Health.

The revised scales of fees and conditions are to apply to all State-aided housing schemes where a contract for the constructional work has not been let at the date of this memorandum.

The scales will apply to every scheme, although two or more architects may be employed. In any case, however, of a scheme for over 250 houses in which the local authority or public utility society proposes to employ a single architect or firm of architects, the Ministry should be consulted before any arrangements as to fees are made.

Save in exceptional circumstances, it is not desirable that any one architect or firm of architects should be entrusted with more than 250 houses in any one scheme.

The scales of fees cover the ordinary variations in type of house and such modifications as are made to avoid monotony in appearance, and are intended to include all necessary duties of an architect and surveyor incidental to the carrying out of the work, including such duties as are involved in complying with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

The conditions of engagements of architects and surveyors shall be those which are customary in the respective professions: for example, generally, such as the conditions prescribed by The Royal Institute of British Architects and The Society of Architects, in the case of the engagement of architects.

### REVISED SCALES OF FEES.

#### I.—ARCHITECTS.

##### A.—Preparation of Lay-out Plans.

For the preparation of a plan or scheme from existing maps, showing roads, builders' plots and buildings in block, including:—

(1) Conferences with local authorities and their officials;  
(2) Surveying, levelling, and preparation of contour plan;

(3) Lay-out plan (where necessary) to 1/2,500 scale;

(4) Detailed lay-out plan or plans to 1/500 scale; but exclusive of the preparation of detailed plans of buildings:—

For 25 houses .. .. .	£1 per house
For a further 75 houses .. .. .	10s. ..
For the remainder .. .. .	7s. 6d. ..

In cases where the number of houses has not been determined, the fees shall be based on an average of 10 houses per acre.

Where a fully contoured plan of the site is provided by the local authority, a deduction shall be made in respect thereof, from the fees above stated, of £1 per acre.

#### B.—Roads and Sewers.

For preparing working drawings, specifications and

quantities for roads and sewers in accordance with the layout plans prepared under Section A, advising on the same and on the preparation of contract, furnishing to the contractor one copy of the drawings, specifications and quantities, general supervision, issuing certificates, measuring up, passing and certifying the accounts:—

For 25 houses .. ..	£2 per house
For a further 75 houses .. ..	£1 ..
For the remainder .. ..	15s. ..

#### C.—Cottages and Flats.

For taking instructions, preparing sketch designs, making approximate estimate of cost, preparing drawings and specifications, obtaining tenders, advising on tenders and on preparation of contract, selecting and instructing consultants, furnishing to the Contractor one copy of the drawings and specifications, and such other details as are necessary for the proper carrying out of the works, general supervision, issuing certificates for payments, and passing and certifying accounts:—

(a) For schemes comprising any number of houses up to 250:—

5 per cent. upon 12 cottages or flats.
2½ .. .. a further 60 cottages or flats.
1½ .. .. 178 .. ..

(b) For schemes comprising 251 to 500 houses:—

5 per cent. upon 12 cottages or flats.
2½ .. .. a further 60 cottages or flats.
1½ .. .. 178 .. ..

Upon a further 250 cottages or flats, the percentage stated in (a) less 7½ per cent.

(c) For schemes comprising 501 to 750 houses:—

5 per cent. upon 12 cottages or flats.
2½ .. .. a further 60 cottages or flats.
1½ .. .. 178 .. ..

Upon 250 to 500 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 7½ per cent.

Upon 501 to 750 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 15 per cent.

(d) For schemes comprising 751 to 1,000 houses:—

5 per cent. upon 12 cottages or flats.
2½ .. .. a further 60 cottages or flats.
1½ .. .. 178 .. ..

Upon 251 to 500 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 7½ per cent.

Upon 501 to 750 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 15 per cent.

Upon 751 to 1,000 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 20 per cent.

(e) For schemes comprising over 1,000 houses:—

5 per cent. upon 12 cottages or flats.
2½ .. .. a further 60 cottages or flats.
1½ .. .. 178 .. ..

Upon 251 to 500 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 7½ per cent.

Upon 501 to 750 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 15 per cent.

Upon 751 to 1,000 cottages or flats, the percentages stated in (a) less 20 per cent.

Upon the remainder, the percentages stated in (a) less 25 per cent.

#### Limitation of Amounts upon which Full Scale Fees may be charged.

The maximum amounts upon which full scale fees in respect of cottages or flats may be charged are as follows:—

Type of Cottage or Flat.	Maximum amount.
A2.—Non-parlour with 2 bedrooms ..	£750
A3.—Non-parlour with 3 bedrooms ..	850
B3.—Parlour with 3 bedrooms ..	950
B4.—Parlour with 4 bedrooms ..	1,050

Where the actual cost exceeds the above maximum amounts, the fees payable on the excess above the maxi-

mum shall not exceed one-third of the ordinary scale fees applicable in the particular case.

In all cases comprising one scheme, but where the houses are situated on different and distinct sites some distance apart and requiring separate supervision, the architect may charge in addition to the fees set out above, and subject to the limitation of the amounts on which full scale fees may be charged, one-half per cent. on the cost of each house erected on any such sites containing not more than 12 houses.

#### Method of Calculating Fees.

For the purpose of arriving at the cost upon which the fees are to be calculated, the average cost of the houses over the whole scheme is to be taken. In determining the average, the cost to be taken into account in respect of any particular type of cottage or flat shall not exceed the maximum amount for that type stated above plus one-third of any amount by which the cost may exceed that maximum.

#### II.—QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

(a) For the preparation of bills of quantities in respect of each separate site or scheme, the charge to be based upon the amount of the accepted tender or, where no tender is accepted, upon the estimated cost of the work, subject in either case to the limitation hereinafter mentioned:—

2 per cent. upon 12 cottages or flats.
1 .. .. a further 60 cottages or flats.
½ .. .. 178 .. ..
¼ .. .. 250 .. ..
⅛ .. .. remainder.

Site and drainage work to be regarded as appurtenances of the buildings.

#### Limitation of Amounts upon which Full Scale Fees may be charged.

The maximum amounts upon which full scale fees in respect of cottages or flats may be charged are as follows:—

Type of Cottage or Flat.	Maximum amount
A2.—Non-parlour with 2 bedrooms ..	£750
A3.—Non-parlour with 3 bedrooms ..	850
B3.—Parlour with 3 bedrooms ..	950
B4.—Parlour with 4 bedrooms ..	1,050

Where the actual cost exceeds the above maximum amounts, the fees payable on the excess above the maximum shall not exceed one-third of the ordinary scale fees applicable in the particular case.

#### Method of Calculating Fees.

For the purpose of arriving at the cost upon which the fees are to be calculated, the average cost of the houses over the whole scheme is to be taken. In determining the average, the cost to be taken into account in respect of any particular type of cottage or flat shall not exceed the maximum amount for that type stated above plus one-third of any amount by which the cost may exceed that maximum.

In the case of any scheme for more than 2,000 houses where a single surveyor (or firm of surveyors) is employed, the local authority or public utility society carrying out the scheme should make a special agreement as to fees with the surveyor, subject to the approval of the Minister of Health.

(b) 2 per cent. in respect of administrative blocks and other unit (non-repeat) buildings such as laundries, repair workshops, etc.

(c) For alterations to and conversion of old buildings:—

2½ per cent. where the accepted tender or the estimated cost does not exceed £5,000.
2 per cent. where the accepted tender or the estimated cost exceeds £5,000.

(d) Measuring and making up account of variations consequent upon alterations in design including foundations:—

1½ per cent. upon gross amount of additions.
1 .. .. omissions.

(e) Adjusting contract price consequent upon changes in



cost of labour and checking and considering claims in respect thereof :—

1½ per cent. upon the net amount of additions.

(f) Adjusting contract price consequent upon changes in cost of materials and checking and considering claims in respect thereof :—

Where this work is done by the surveyor, a special fee is to be arranged, and not to exceed ½ per cent. in respect of the first 100 houses upon the gross cost of the materials dealt with, and ¼ per cent. in respect of any number of houses beyond the first 100 upon the gross cost of the materials dealt with. In the event of any difference as to the amount to be charged for this work, the difference is to be determined by the Minister of Health, whose decision shall be final.

(g) For pricing out Bills of Quantities, a special fee is to be arranged, and in the event of any difference as to the amount to be charged for this work, the difference is to be determined by the Minister of Health, whose decision shall be final.

The above scales of fees for Quantity Surveyors do not cover the making of calculations and preparation of statements for the purpose of issuing certificates, and are exclusive of all disbursements in respect of printing, lithography, and other out-of-pocket expenses.

## THE UNIFICATION COMMITTEE.

Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday, 20th July, 1920,  
2.30-4.20 p.m.\*

Present :

Mr. John W. Simpson, President R.I.B.A., in the Chair.  
PAST PRESIDENTS R.I.B.A.

Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., K.C.V.O., C.B.

Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Litt.D.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE R.I.B.A.

*Fellows* : Sir Banister Fletcher, Mr. A. W. S. Cross,  
Mr. Arthur Keen, Mr. E. Stanley Hall, Major  
Harry Barnes, M.P.

*Associates* : Mr. Horace Cubitt, Mr. Herbert A.  
Welch, Mr. K. Gammell, Mr. W. R. Davidge, Mr.  
Digby L. Solomon, Mr. G. Leonard Elkington,  
Mr. P. W. Hubbard.

*Licentiate* : Mr. H. Ascroft, Mr. H. R. Bird, Mr.  
A. J. Penty, Mr. Francis R. Taylor, Mr. J. E.  
Yerbury.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ALLIED SOCIETIES IN THE  
UNITED KINGDOM.

Bristol Soc. of Architects :—Mr. G. C. Lawrence [A.].  
Devon and Exeter Architectural Society :—Mr.  
Lewis Tonat [Licentiate].

Dundee Institute of Architects :—Mr. A. G. Heiton.  
Edinburgh Architectural Association :—Mr. W. T.  
Oldrieve [F.].

Glasgow Institute of Architects :—Mr. Wm. B.  
Whitie [F.].

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Association of Archi-  
tects :—Mr. J. B. Healing [A.].

Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society :—  
Mr. W. Carby Hall [F.].

Leicester and Leicestershire Society of Architects :—  
Mr. A. H. Hind [F.].

Liverpool Architectural Society :—Mr. T. Tahesin  
Rees [F.].

Manchester Society of Architects :—Mr. A. W.  
Hennings [F.].

Northern Architectural Association :—Mr. C. S.  
Errington [F.].

Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Architectural  
Society :—Mr. C. B. Flockton [F.].

South Wales Institute of Architects :—Mr. Ivor  
Jones [A.].

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ALLIED SOCIETIES IN THE  
DOMINIONS—Australia :—Major H. C. Corlette,  
O.B.E., R.B.C. [F.].

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION  
(LONDON).—Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C. [F.].

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.—  
Mr. Edwin J. Sadgrove [F.], Sir Charles T. Ruthen,  
O.B.E. [F.], Mr. A. Burnett Brown, Mr. George H.  
Paine, Mr. Noel D. Sheffield, Mr. Edwin J. Partridge,  
Mr. C. McArthur Butler.

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ARCHITECTS' AND SURVEYORS'  
ASSISTANTS' PROFESSIONAL UNION.—Mr. R. G.  
Llewellyn-Evans.

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICIAL ARCHITECTS' ASSOCIA-  
TION.—Mr. Sydney Perks, F.S.A. [F.].

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ULSTER SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.  
—Mr. N. Fitzsimons [F.].

REPRESENTATIVES OF ARCHITECTS UNATTACHED TO ANY  
PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATION.—Mr. G. E. Marshall  
(Liverpool), and Mr. A. H. Mooring Aldridge (Bourne-  
mouth).

Ian MacAlister, Secretary R.I.B.A.

*Appointment of Vice-Chairman.*—On the motion of  
Major Harry Barnes, M.P., it was RESOLVED—That Mr.  
E. J. Sadgrove, President of the Society of Architects, be  
appointed Vice-Chairman.

*Appointment of Hon. Secretary.*—On the motion of Mr.  
Maurice E. Webb, it was RESOLVED—That Mr. Arthur  
Keen, Hon. Secretary R.I.B.A., be appointed Hon. Secre-  
tary of the Committee.

*Appointment of Sub-Committee.*—On the motion of Mr.  
Sydney Perks, it was unanimously RESOLVED—That the  
following members be appointed to serve on the Sub-  
Committee :—

The Chairman.

The Vice-Chairman.

The Hon. Secretary.

Sir Banister Fletcher [F.].

Mr. James S. Gibson [F.].

Major Harry Barnes, M.P. [F.].

Mr. Herbert A. Welch [A.].

Mr. Horace Cubitt [A.].

Mr. G. Leonard Elkington [A.].

Mr. J. E. Yerbury [Licentiate].

Sir Charles Ruthen [F.].

Mr. Noel Sheffield, } representing the Society  
of Architects.

Mr. C. McArthur Butler, }  
Mr. Maurice E. Webb [F.], representing the Archi-  
tectural Association.

Mr. W. E. Riley [F.], representing the Official Archi-  
tects' Association.

Mr. R. G. Llewellyn-Evans, representing Architects  
and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union.

Mr. W. B. Whitie [F.], representing the Institute of  
Scottish Architects.

Mr. H. T. Buckland [F.], representing the Allied  
Societies.

Mr. G. E. Marshall, representing the Unattached  
Architects.

*The Work of the Committee.*—The Chairman then out-  
lined the work that lay before the Committee, and sug-  
gested that the Sub-Committee be instructed to prepare  
alternative schemes of unification for consideration. After  
some discussion it was finally RESOLVED, on the motion of  
Major Harry Barnes, M.P., seconded by Major H. C. Cor-  
lette, by a unanimous vote, that it be an instruction to the  
Sub-Committee to draft and submit to the Grand Com-  
mittee alternative proposals for unification based re-  
spectively on absorption and federation.

\* A full report of the Debate will be given in the August number  
of the JOURNAL.

## TEMPLE MOORE.

TEMPLE LUSHINGTON MOORE, elder son of the late Major-General G. F. Moore, was always delicate from his childhood upwards. In his early boyhood he determined to become an artist, and so zealously did he pursue the idea that by the time he had reached the early teens he had made a sufficient number of sketches, mostly in water colours, to cover the walls of his house. Eventually, however, he decided to become an architect, and was articled to my father, the late George Gilbert Scott.

During his pupilage, and the early days following it, he was a most enthusiastic and hardworking student of ancient work, of which he acquired an exhaustive knowledge both in Great Britain and on the Continent. At the same time he made an enormous number of measured drawings. These drawings were almost invariably done in his characteristic style, on 14 in. by 10 in. sketching blocks, using a small tee and set squares and a two-foot rule. A scale-rule he never used at any time in his life—no matter to what scale he was drawing. He usually finished these drawings in colours, and three such drawings per diem was the rate at which he made them. He always *drew* with his left hand, but he might be said to have been ambidextrous, for he *wrote* with his right hand. But he had no opinion of his own draughtsmanship, and used to say that he thought he could *design*, but he certainly could not *draw*. However, in spite of this fancied disability, he would make large and important perspective drawings without any geometrical “setting up” whatever, and they always looked correct.

Temple Moore's ability for solving constructional difficulties was quite remarkable, and his resourcefulness was not less so. If an unforeseen difficulty arose in the carrying out of the work, or a suggestion was made that some part or arrangement he had proposed was not satisfactory, he would readily propose not one, but many, alternatives.

Another characteristic ability was that of being able to judge the dimensions of an existing building, and the sizes of its parts and scantlings. When called in to advise on new or restoration work to a building, he would make complete sketch plans, sections and details of the existing work, figuring in dimensions of heights and sizes, without any measuring to speak of; and when, later, his work was checked by measurement, it was found to be surprisingly accurate.

In spite of his most conservative character and intense love and reverence for ancient work, he was anxious not merely to continue on the same lines as his immediate predecessors of the Bodley School, but to carry on still further the development of the revived Gothic style. He himself always fancied that he failed to make the advance he strove for; but that he was unjust to himself in this respect will be readily admitted by all who know his work well. St. Peter's, Barnsley, and a host of smaller churches readily occur

to one; in fact, it is difficult to think of any that are not very distinctively Temple Moore's.

No man that I ever knew was so wholly absorbed by and devoted to his art as Temple Moore. So absent-minded did this make him that he has been known to leave clients' houses without recollecting to take leave of them.

An extremely shy man, he always worked at his home at Hampstead, and was probably not known, even by sight, to very many of his admirers. As an instance of his shyness, I remember a little incident that occurred while I was articled to him. I was working at home in my spare time on the Liverpool Cathedral competition drawings, and in consequence was often late in arriving at the office, and early in leaving. Temple Moore endured my irregular hours for weeks before venturing on a reprimand, and when he finally summoned up his courage to remind me that office hours were from 10 to 5, he did so, not verbally, but by sending me a post card to that effect!

Unfortunately for him, he had no hobby of any kind outside his work. Under the persuasion of his friends he tried several during his early manhood, but nothing of the sort appealed to him or in the least interested him, and he never followed them up. He had a wonderful memory—not only for the details of his work, but also for general facts, dates, and names. He would readily recall, for instance, the names of foremen and even principal workmen and others with whom he had been in contact on his many works years before.

Among the many works he carried out during his 40 years of busy practice it is difficult to point to outstanding examples, for the level is so uniformly high, and they all show the distinctiveness of his genius.

The versatility alone shown in his works, when considered in a group, makes it impossible to say that such or such are the greatest of them; but, generally speaking, his cheaper churches possess his own personal touch to a far greater extent than his more costly work, and I feel that in these strong, simple and original buildings is found the true Temple Moore. Emphatically he has left the impress of his genius upon modern ecclesiastical architecture.

G. GILBERT SCOTT [F.].

Mr. LESLIE MOORE [F.] writes :—

Mr. Temple Moore was a great believer in the Catholic Faith and tradition of the Church, travelling much in France, Italy and the British Isles, and making hundreds of sketches of mediæval churches. He was a man who lived for his profession: sketching and measuring old work were his recreations: he had been known to tramp many miles to visit some ancient church to study special features. Gifted with a prodigious memory, he would quote measurements and details of various parts of churches with accuracy that he had not seen for many years.

His sympathetic knowledge of the past found full

scope in the preservation of an ancient building, in which he especially excelled: it was wonderful how he would keep the correct feeling, and seemed to be able to inspire those working with him and for him with the mediæval spirit. Amongst the most interesting examples of such work are St. William's College, York, and Yaxley Church, Hunts.

Of the most beautiful characteristic examples of his original work may be mentioned St. Wilfred's Church, Harrogate, the Pusey House, Oxford, St. Peter's Church, Barnsley, St. Mary's, Sledmere, and a hundred other new churches and additions which will remain a lasting memorial of his greatness. He was elected a Fellow of the Institute in 1905, and in recent years he was assisted by his son, Richard Temple Moore (drowned in s.s. "Leinster"), and his partner, Mr. Leslie Moore [F.], by whom he wished the honoured tradition of his practice to be carried on.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### Westminster Cathedral.

19, St. James's Street, Sheffield: 2nd July, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR.—I have not had the good fortune to see Mme. de l'Hôpital's work on *Westminster Cathedral and its Architect*, reviewed by Mr. H. H. Statham in the current number of the JOURNAL.

The latter is in error in stating that Bentley's letter, quoted by him at the foot of page 397, was addressed to Professor Lethaby. The letter in question is one of a long series written to my late father, and it is before me as I write. It bears the date, 13th January, 1902.

May I also express my surprise at the appearance in the pages of the JOURNAL of such a remark as that contained in the concluding sentence of this review?—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES M. HADFIELD [F.].

\* \* It is correct that Bentley's letter was in fact written to Mr. Hadfield. The reviewer of the book writes that the mistake arose from Professor Lethaby's name occurring in the line immediately above the quotation in the book.—ED.

### R.I.B.A. Record of Honour.

TRACY, BERNARD DAVID, Captain R.G.A., *Associate*. Wounded 6th September, 1918, and awarded the Military Cross (*Gazette*, 3rd June, 1919).  
DURST, AUSTIN, Captain R.E., *Licentiate*. Mentioned in Despatches July, 1919.

### Award of the Donaldson Silver Medal.

On the recommendation of Professor A. E. Richardson [F.], the Donaldson Silver Medal, provided out of funds held in trust by the Institute, has been awarded to Mr. R. C. White-Cooper, a student of the University of London.



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 31st July 1920

## CHRONICLE.

### R.I.B.A. Reception and Garden Party in Honour of ex-Service Members.

The Reception and Garden Party held by the President and Council of the Institute at the Zoological Gardens on Tuesday, 29th June, in honour of the return to civil life of the large numbers of Members, Licentiates and Students of the Institute who served in the Army or Navy during the Great War was a highly successful and most pleasurable function. The weather, which early in the day seemed a little unpromising, turned out later all that could be desired for such a gathering and such an occasion. With the summer heat tempered by cool, refreshing breezes, it was under the most agreeable conditions that the guests could sit or stroll about in the brilliant sunshine, meeting their friends and listening to the excellent music performed by the band of the Irish Guards. The attractions outside the enclosure were also not to be denied, and the opportunity of hunting up old acquaintances and forming new ones among the regular denizens of the Gardens was largely taken advantage of. The company numbered little short of a thousand persons gathered from all parts of the country, the chief centres being well represented. The guests of the day, the ex-Service men, it was gratifying to note, were in considerable force, and a few wore their uniforms. The President, supported by the Vice-Presidents and Hon. Secretary, received the guests in the Zoological Society's fine Library, the ex-Service men being announced by the rank they had held in the Services. Refreshments were served at tables under an extensive marquee, open at the sides, which was set up on the Great Lawn, specially reserved for members and guests. Plans of the Gardens were provided to facilitate perambulation. Among those present may be mentioned Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., and Lady Webb, Sir David Murray, R.A., Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., Sir John Burnet, R.S.A., Sir Henry Tanner, Sir Frederick Kenyon, Sir Francis Fox, Sir Charles Woodstock, Sir Israel Gollancz, Sir Cooper Perry, Major Barnes, M.P., and Mrs. Barnes, the Presidents of representative learned, artistic and professional institutions, the Mayors of important London boroughs, the Masters and Wardens of several of the great City Companies, etc.

## Dinner to Mr. Cass Gilbert.

Mr. Cass Gilbert [*Hon. Corr. M.*], the eminent American architect, and President of the American Institute of Arts and Letters, who has just concluded a short visit to this country, was entertained to dinner by the Institute Council Dinner Club at the Café Royal, on the 19th inst. The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, was in the chair, having on his right Mrs. Cass Gilbert, Sir John Burnet, R.S.A., Lady Lawrence Weaver, Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., and Mr. Paul Waterhouse, and on his left Mr. Cass Gilbert, Lady Burnet, Sir Lawrence Weaver, Sir Banister and Lady Fletcher and Dr. R. Tait McKenzie. The company included also Professor Gerald Moira, Mr. John Slater, Mr. A. W. S. Cross, Mr. and Mrs. George Hubbard, Mr. W. E. Riley and Miss Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Keen, Mr. Lewis Solomon, Mr. and Mrs. Digby Solomon, Mr. D. Barclay Niven, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Harris, Mr. Maurice B. Adams, Mr. Max Clarke, Mr. Wm. Woodward, Mr. C. S. Errington, Mr. T. Taliesin Rees, Mr. T. Geoffrey Lucas, Mr. Andrew N. Prentice, Mr. W. R. Davidge, Mr. Septimus Warwick, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Webb, Mr. Stanley Hamp, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Green, Mr. W. B. Whitie, Mr. H. T. Kibblewhite, Mr. W. T. Plume, Mr. H. W. Wills, Major and Mrs. Maxwell Ayrton, Mr. W. G. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Ian MacAlister.

The President, in proposing the health of the guest of the evening, said that they welcomed him not only as a great master of the profession, but as a representative of a great Ally, and in view of the importance of a complete accord between America, France and England, the more we saw of one another the better. Perhaps we trusted too much to the fact that Americans and ourselves spoke the same tongue, but in any case there was one great desire in the minds of our people, viz., to secure, above all trade conditions or signed agreements, a solid lasting basis of mutual goodwill based on frankness and honesty of conversation. Politics and commercial interests, even sports, were a loose and unsafe bond: the one broad, prominent contact point between civilised nations was Art, and it was to be hoped that this visit of Mr. Gilbert's would form another step towards a closer intimacy between the two peoples, which would only come from personal knowledge, respect and friendship.

Mr. Gilbert, in responding, said that he came first to London as a boy forty years ago, with a desire to enter an English architect's office. The times were dull, and there was no opportunity. He well remembered, however, having a letter of introduction to that great architect, Alfred Waterhouse, whom he visited several times. John L. Pearson, who was then building Truro Cathedral, he also met, and Phené Spiers, who showed him how he should really draw a Gothic arch. He remembered, too, George Edmund Street, then building the Law Courts. This first visit of his seemed a very long time ago, but it was all as fresh as ever in his memory. In a way, whenever he came to England he felt that he was coming home.

The only other toast given besides the loyal toasts was that of "The Ladies," proposed by Mr. Waterhouse and responded to by Lady Banister Fletcher in a speech which greatly delighted the company by its brilliancy and wit.

Mr. Gilbert, at the President's pressing request, had brought with him a number of slides illustrative of his buildings, and later in the evening these were thrown upon the screen, and the architect, acting as guide, conducted the company over the famous Woolworth Building, giving details of its construction and calling attention to special points of interest. The height of the building from the pavement level to the top of the main roof, at the 31st floor level, is 400 ft., the tower (86 ft. by 84 ft. at its base) being an additional 270 ft. in height from the 31st floor to the 50th, from which level rises a pyramid 105 ft. high and 54 ft. square at the base, containing the five highest floors, and an observation gallery at a height of 730 ft. Thus, the building in all comprises 55 storeys, of an average height of 12 ft. 6 in., the total height being 796 ft. from the pavement level and 810 ft. from the foundation grillages to the top of the tower. There are only two storeys below ground, the cellar floor being 37 ft. 6 in. below street level.

The President's citation of Walt Whitman on this occasion was the happiest of inspirations:—

*Brain of the New World, what a task is thine.*

*To formulate the Modern—out of the peerless grandeur of the modern.*

*Out of thyself, comprising science, to recast poems, churches, art.*

*(Recast, may-be discard them, end them—may-be their work is done, who knows?)*

*By vision, hand, conception, on the background of the mighty past, the dead.*

*To limn with absolute faith the mighty living present.*

## National Housing Competition : Selected Designs for Erection at Hammersmith.

The London County Council have accepted a tender for the erection on the Old Oak Estate, Hammersmith, of the 18 cottages to be built according to designs premiated in the competition conducted by the R.I.B.A. by arrangement with the Local Government Board in 1917-18. The architects are: Mr. Courtenay M. Crickmer [*F.*]—first premium, Class A, Home Counties Area; Mr. F. C. W. Barrett—2nd premium; Mr. Alfred Cox [*F.*]—first premium, Class B; Mr. C. Wontner Smith [*F.*]—2nd premium. The scheme is the outcome of a suggestion made to the Government by Mr. Henry T. Hare, when President, that a group of houses should be erected from the premiated designs to serve as models in connection with the Government Housing Schemes, and in such a locality in or near London as to be ultimately available for normal occupation by working-class families. Arrangements were made with the London County Council by the late Lord Downham (then Mr. Hayes Fisher, President of the Local Government Board) to

provide a site and to carry out the scheme in conjunction with the Institute. The houses will be provided by the London County Council in pursuance of their powers under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890. The tender accepted amounts to £20,112, and there will be an additional expenditure estimated to amount to £1,888 for architects' and surveyors' fees, supervision, lithography, &c.

#### Proposed Means of accelerating House Building.

The Cabinet, it was stated a few days ago in *The Times*, is considering a new scheme for the acceleration of the Government housing programme. It is proposed that, where local authorities are not making good progress with their schemes, the Office of Works should be entrusted with the work. This is already being done by arrangement in a few localities, and a Housing Board has been established at the Office of Works under its chief architect, Sir Frank Baines. Under the new scheme, the Ministry of Health will buy the materials, and provide the money for building, leaving the local authority to repay the full amount with interest in three years.

The insufficiency of building labour, to which is ascribed the slow progress of the housing scheme, the Cabinet considers can only be made good by a measure of dilution of building labour. It is understood that the plan of the Cabinet is to guarantee employment to men engaged in house building for a term of years and to insure them against time lost on account of bad weather by the payment of a weekly minimum wage. The Government will ask the trade unions in return to accept three conditions—dilution, relaxation of the present rules of apprenticeship, and employment of ex-Service men.

#### The Housing Subsidy [*ante*, p. 406].

The Ministry of Health announces that the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, which authorised grants to private persons building houses, lays down the conditions that the houses must be begun within twelve months from the passing of the Act—viz., 23rd December 1919, and completed within that period or such further period not exceeding four months, as the Minister of Health may in a special case allow. It is found that this period is not long enough for the erection of the houses which might otherwise be built under the stimulus of the subsidy, and the Government has decided to introduce legislation to extend the period for a further year. It is not proposed that the aggregate amount of £15,000,000 authorised by the Act for grants shall be increased.

#### Building Materials and Construction Research.

A Building (Materials and Construction) Research Board has recently been established under the Scientific and Industrial Research Department for the purpose of considering the conduct of research on building materials and methods of construction. The personnel of the Board is as follows:—The Marquess

of Salisbury, K.G., G.C.V.O., &c. (chairman); Sir Aston Webb, K.C.V.O., C.B., P.R.A., formerly President R.I.B.A.; Major-General Sir Gerard Heath, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., lately Engineer-in-Chief to the British Armies in France; Mr. C. W. Humphreys, C.B.E., M.Inst.C.E., Chief Engineer, London County Council, with Mr. S. B. Russell [*F.*] of the Ministry of Health, and Mr. A. R. Myers [*A.*] of H.M. Office of Works, as Associate Members. Mr. H. O. Weller has been appointed Director of Building Research under the Department.

#### The Preservation of Westminster Abbey.

The Dean of Westminster appeals to the entire English-speaking world for funds for the repair and upkeep of Westminster Abbey. The means at the disposal of the Dean and Chapter, he says, no longer suffice for its upkeep. The sum of money fixed more than fifty years ago for the maintenance of the fabric and for the services of the Abbey has become utterly inadequate for the purpose. High prices and high wages have brought the custodians to the verge of bankruptcy, and they are no longer able to pay their way. The building is in danger of entering upon a phase of steady structural deterioration. There is immediate need for (1) the repair of the two great western towers; (2) the reparation of the external stonework of Henry VII.'s Chapel; (3) the renovation of a large portion of the parapet running round the roof; (4) the repair of the clerestories and flying buttresses. A continual large outlay is required for the maintenance in proper repair of the much-decayed cloisters and the ancient dwellings.

The Dean asks for £250,000. Of this the sum of £100,000 is required for immediate structural repairs. The remaining sum, he urges, should constitute a fund by which the whole Abbey and any buildings of which the Dean and Chapter are the custodians should in future time be kept in a constant condition of complete efficiency and repair, and be finally freed from the humiliating necessity of appeals. The Dean has secured as trustees the Governor of the Bank of England, the Marquis of Salisbury (High Steward of Westminster), and Sir Robert Hudson.

*The Times* of the 29th June lent powerful support to the appeal by the presentation to its readers of a beautifully illustrated Special Supplement consisting of a series of interesting articles in which the Dean, Professor W. R. Lethaby [*F.*] (Surveyor of the Abbey) and others to whose hands the immediate care of the building is committed explain the needs or recall the story of the foundation whose stones they reverence and love. A further valuable contribution was *The Times'* eloquent three-column leader of the same date tracing some of the chief figures and indicating generally the colouring of the immense tapestry of which the Abbey has been for a thousand years, and is today, the centre and the life—a living tapestry whose warp and woof are the minds and the souls of men.

The King has headed the subscription list with a

donation of £1,000, and the Council of the Institute have voted a contribution of one hundred guineas. All contributions should be addressed to "The Right Rev. the Dean of Westminster, D.D., The Deanery, Westminster Abbey, S.W.1." Cheques should be made out to "The Dean of Westminster or Bearer," and crossed "Bank of England." A roll containing the names of all contributors of £5 and upwards will be formed and duly preserved among the Abbey's historic documents.

Commenting upon the Institute's contribution to the Fund, *The Times* says:—

The gift of the Royal Institute of British Architects may be taken as proof that that eminent body is satisfied that the repair and preservation of the Abbey are in good hands. There is a touch of irony in the idea that while the Government appears to be planning a new and grandiose memorial in the Egyptian style, Westminster Abbey, the great national memorial of our saints and heroes, "the chief and central work of our English art," should be begging for money to preserve its hallowed walls from decay. But so it is. On the people, not the nation as a political term, falls the privilege of keeping the Abbey in repair; and a cheque sent to the Abbey Fund would be a sound protest against any such expenditure of public money as is proposed.

Professor Lethaby, in *The Times* of the 9th July, gives the following account of the fabric repairs:—

I have been asked to give some idea of "how long the necessary repairs to Westminster Abbey will take," and I can only reply, "For ever."

The repairing of the Abbey buildings must have been continuous from the time when the scaffolding was struck, and it will necessarily continue to the end. It is not possible to apply any once-for-all policy; it is a question of constant attention and expenditure. All the great buildings of cathedral scale need repair year by year, and Westminster especially so because of the acid and disintegrating nature of the London atmosphere, and also, perhaps, because of incessant vibration caused by heavy traffic.

During the last century a very large aggregate must have been expended on even absolutely necessary repairs. The last heavy piece of work of this kind, completed only about two years ago, was the practical renewal, or rather re-renewal, of the external masonry of the south transept. This had been cased over about the year 1705, by the general advice of Wren, with new facing work. It was carefully done in a way, but the stones were very thin—only three and four inches thick—set on edge with practically no bond. I believe they called the process "flagging," and they must have trusted to the many necessary turns around the buttresses to give it stability. It answered wonderfully for about two centuries, and then it was found that it was "coming away," like a damp wallpaper, from the solid work behind, and the damp was here also the cause. This thin and rotted skin had to be entirely removed—a work of difficulty, and indeed of danger—to be replaced by good, well-bonded masonry in Portland stone. As patches of this loose work were removed, the original faces of the thirteenth-century building thus revealed were found to be weathered into shapelessness. The original stone was from quarries at Reigate, and the casing had been executed in Oxfordshire stone. Neither of these will now stand the atmospheric conditions of big cities. Experience has shown that Portland stone, of which St. Paul's Cathedral is built, may best be trusted to resist modern London requirements. This stone has been used for all external repairs done during the last 20 years.

At the present time the works more immediately requiring attention are the external masonry of Henry VII.'s

Chapel, especially the clerestory, flying buttresses and turrets, and also the great western towers. Henry VII.'s Chapel was refaced about a century ago so completely that hardly one really ancient stone of the exterior remains. The interior, however, on the contrary, has fortunately been little touched, and remains authentic medieval work. The external casing was very carefully done, but here again the stone was not of a kind and quality to stand long against the London air attack. Much of it is badly decayed, and projecting parts have fallen away.

The great western towers, built about 1730–40, are of carefully selected Portland stone, which has stood admirably on the surface; but here, unfortunately, iron cramps and bars were used in the construction, with the consequence that as they rust they burst off parts of the external face, and fragments frequently fall. Any extensive repair to these towers will require heavy and costly scaffolding, thus greatly increasing the necessary expenditure.

The parapets of open quatrefoils are in many places much decayed, but again these are not of original medieval work. Indeed, it is true of the main fabric as of Henry VII.'s Chapel that hardly an original external stone remains, and some parts, such as these parapets, must have been renewed more than once. So far as I know, there is no immediately dangerous structural failure like the sinking of foundations or moving of the vaults, but it seems obvious that to keep the buildings in efficient order will require an ever-increasing expenditure.

Besides the larger works such as those described, there is an even more constant stream of minor repairs, such as relaying worn pavements, keeping the lead roofs in condition, renewing broken glazing, and cutting out single stones which have perished.

Mr. Frederic Harrison, having urged that the work of repair should be under the charge of an engineer, was taken to task by Mr. Arthur Keen, Hon. Secretary of the Institute, in a letter to *The Times* of the 10th inst.

"Mr. Frederic Harrison's words" (said Mr. Keen) "command the respect of all who value our ancient buildings, and if he had written them fifty or sixty years ago he would have helped to save many precious things from extinction; at the present time he is only pushing at an open door where he pleads for conservative treatment of the stones of Westminster Abbey. The architect in charge of the Abbey is well known as one of our strongest and most faithful opponents of restoration, and as one whose judgment on matters of medieval art is perhaps more final than that of any other. To put the maintenance of ancient sculpture or tracery into the hands of an engineer would be to court disaster. The qualifications required by those who deal with the repair of ancient buildings are profound knowledge of the methods of the old masons, the fullest sympathy with their work, and the most refined skill in handling it, and the engineer neither possesses nor claims these qualifications.

"One knows all about the 'restorations' of the Gothic Revival, but architects have realised, as everyone else has realised, what has been lost, and they are quite alive to the value of what remains. The destruction which they are concerned about at the present time is that which threatens the churches of the City of London. If these churches are allowed to go the time will come when the loss of them will be regarded in the same way as the loss of the stones and the furniture of our mediæval churches, gone beyond recall."

#### The Threatened City Churches.

The Records and Museums Committee of the London County Council have reported that the nineteen City



churches recommended for demolition by the Bishop of London's Commission comprise some of the most interesting buildings in the City of London, and include churches which, on account of their architectural beauty and historic associations, are worthy of preservation. The Committee are of opinion that the loss that would result from the destruction of more than one-third of the remaining Wren churches would be irreparable, and some of the threatened buildings erected by his successors could ill be spared. At the meeting of the Council a resolution was passed deploring the recommendations of the Commission.

#### A Proposed National War Memorial.

*The Times* of the 14th inst. published a drawing illustrating a design for a National War Memorial by Sir Frank Baines, Principal Architect of the Office of Works. The Memorial, it was stated, was designed for a commanding position at Hyde Park Corner. It is in the form of a gigantic pylon, towering 160 feet above the floor of the Great Hall (75 feet by 55 feet) at its base, with two flanking temples on a higher platform, the floor areas measuring 58 feet by 28 feet. The following description was given of the monument:

The style of the design is Egyptian, the artist evidently feeling that the Egyptian period is the most suitable for immense scale and grandeur. His ambition clearly is that the monument should be the most distinctive object in London.

On each side of the great pylon two broad stairways approach and pass through the two flanking temples at its sides, and by a platform sweep round the back of it and into its great arch. An immense bas-relief marches up parallel with the stairways on each side through the flanking temples and into the great arch of the pylon, and on it there are figured the outstanding incidents and lessons of the effort of the British Empire in the war. From the bas-reliefs as they enter the arch of the pylon there fly upwards to the mighty lintel of the arch the disembodied spirits of the dead, pouring over the edge of the lintel 100 feet from the floor to the face of the pylon in immense cloudy forms, which in turn are surmounted by a great frieze on which a gigantic symbol of Immortality is carved. At the base of the pylon a single bronze figure of a youth is placed, looking upward at the flying forms of the dead, typifying our new manhood learning the lesson of the sacrifices of the race in the war.

The drawings were hung in the tea-room of the House of Commons for the inspection of members.\* Replying to questions in the House, Sir Alfred Mond, First Commissioner of Works, said that the design was prepared by Sir Frank Baines entirely on his own initiative and in his own time. It had never been put forward for official consideration, and he had never contemplated submitting it to the Cabinet. He had allowed the drawings to be exhibited at the request of a member of the House. No memorial could be erected out of public funds without the approval of the House of Commons, which would have to sanction the expenditure. Later, in reply to Sir S. Hoare (Chelsea), Sir Alfred Mond said that he regarded this particular scheme for a National War Memorial as "quite dead."

\* *The Builder* of the 23rd inst. published reproductions of the drawings—plans, elevations and perspectives.

The Press has published a number of letters condemning the design. Mr. Stephen Paget, quoting the passage in the description about "the disembodied spirits of the dead, in immense cloudy forms, flying upwards," says:—

Who thinks of them like that? Why do they fly upwards? Heaven is not overhead. How can disembodied spirits be embodied in cloudy forms? What is the symbol of Immortality? How shall we know it when we see it? Why should spirits, enjoying the reality of Immortality, fly to a symbol of Immortality? What can the Office of Works tell us about Immortality? . . .

Of the style of the design, Mr. Paget says:—

Of all styles unfit for London and alien to London, the Egyptian is the most unfit and alien; and the bigger it might be, the more vulgar it would be. It is heavy, passive, sulky; it is the style of a caste-ridden people; it requires the sunlight and the desert; it would show the dirt; it proclaims complete indifference to the hard estate of the poor.

Mr. Selwyn Image characterises the design "as one of pure pagan swagger. In every way it might have suited Berlin under the dominance of the ex-Kaiser."

Sir Thomas G. Jackson thinks the symbolism which is introduced "as little suited to modern ideas as the Pylon is itself. Symbolism belongs to the time when people could not read and had to be taught by pictures instead. It lost its meaning as knowledge spread, and was brushed aside by artists as art matured. The higher art really began when symbolism ended."

*The Times* of the 15th inst. published the following letter from the President of the Institute, sent before the drawings were exhibited and before Sir Alfred Mond's explanation in the House:—

13th July 1920.

SIR,—With grief and indignation I learn from your Parliamentary Notes of the proposal that H.M. Office of Works should design the National War Memorial. Are the architects who gave up all to fight for us already forgotten, that they are to be allowed no opportunity to concentrate their talent to the memory of their fallen comrades?

I make no reflection on the design placed before the House of Commons, of which I know nothing beyond the description you publish—still less do I belittle the ability of its author—but I protest very earnestly against employing a Government Department to produce the monument which, above all others, should represent the finest art of our country. Its designer should be chosen with the utmost care, and his merit proved by work submitted in public competition.

I am, Sir, your obedient faithful servant,

JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*.

#### Appointment in Shanghai for Fully Qualified Assistant.

The President publishes the following letter for the information of Members and Licentiates. Candidates for the post offered should address their application in the first place to the Secretary R.I.B.A.

22 Yuen Meng Yuen Road, Shanghai; 10 April 1920  
*The President R.I.B.A.,—*

DEAR SIR,—Will you be good enough to select a fully qualified senior architect's assistant for us? The type of man we require is one capable of taking entire charge, if



necessary, of a fairly large and varied practice. The practice includes domestic work, office buildings, warehouses, valuations of property, and now and again a little Gothic.

A knowledge of reinforced concrete would be acceptable, but not essential.

Apart from his professional ability, the class of man we desire is one likely to inspire confidence in our clientèle and eventually bring in work, for it must be understood that in China such an assistant more rapidly becomes identified with and a part of his firm than in England.

If enquiries are made with regard to the climate of Shanghai, you can safely reply that it is quite a healthy place. Two or perhaps three of the summer months are hot, but the life is a pleasant one, with abundance of sport of all kinds obtainable.

The following are the principal terms of the agreement :  
Three years.

Salary—350.00, 400.00 and 450.00 Taels per month ; to commence from date of joining us in Shanghai.

A bonus on a sliding scale according to profits for successful year's working.

£50 allowed for outfit and incidental travelling expenses to Shanghai.

Passage out 1st class and home again if no new agreement is entered into.

A short holiday each summer.

Cannot practise in Shanghai or Hankow for 2 years after completion of agreement.

We can confidently state that this opening is a good one, and the salary offered considerably more than that customarily received by a man coming out to China for the first time.

In the event of a new agreement being entered into, six months' leave on half salary would be granted with passage money, and it is to be understood that our intention in taking an assistant is to obtain a man who would, in due course, work his way into the firm.

The Tael is a variable quantity, at present standing at 7s., exceptionally high, of course. The average for the past six years is approximately 4s.

All living expenses are either in Taels or Dollars, the latter being in proportion to the former approximately as 75 is to 100, in other words if the Tael is 4s., the Dollar would be 3s. The monthly living expenses for board and lodging in a good mess or hotel would be in the region of \$150, or, say, Ts.120.

The successful candidate must be single, and have no immediate contemplation of matrimony. Also, we desire a man of temperate habits, healthy, athletically inclined, having good presence and gentlemanly bearing, and an Associate of the Royal Institute by preference.

The selected man must leave at earliest possible date by quickest route. Very hot weather clothing need not be brought, except enough for the voyage out. This can be bought locally more suitably and more cheaply. All necessary books and instruments to be brought.

The selected candidate to be passed by a doctor as fit—bearing in mind the two or three months' hot weather.

For cost of passage out please apply to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, London, to whom we have written by same mail.—Yours faithfully,

STEWARTSON & SPENCE [*Associates R.I.B.A.*].

#### Timber Supplies : Inquiry into Imperial Resources.

Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood [*F.*], in a letter to *The Times*, refers to the Empire Timber Exhibition now being held, and mentions that an important inquiry is being carried on at the Imperial Institute by the Advisory Committee on Timbers, of which he is Chairman. The object of the inquiry is to find out the particular uses to which the various timbers can be put, and which of them exist in sufficient quantity and can be exported at such prices as will enable them to enter the markets of this and other

countries of the Empire. The Committee include architects nominated by the Royal Institute of British Architects ; builders nominated by the Institute of Builders ; representatives of the timber trades nominated by the Timber Trades Federation ; and of furniture manufacturers nominated by the National Federation of Furniture Manufacturers. The Carpenters' Company also has appointed a representative on the Committee. The Secretary of the Committee is a member of the scientific staff of the Imperial Institute. The Committee are considering in turn the chief timbers of each country of the Empire, and selecting those which are sufficiently promising to submit to appropriate technical tests in the laboratories of the Imperial Institute and practical trials by manufacturers and others. The Committee are in communication with the Governments concerned, and have already made reports and taken action, chiefly regarding the timbers of Canada, New Zealand, India, North Borneo, and West Africa. These reports and those relating to timbers from other sources will be published in due course. The Committee will be glad to receive communications from all who have knowledge of undeveloped timber resources within the Empire which may be suitable for structural or decorative purposes, and will reply to any inquiries addressed to them at the Imperial Institute, where representative collections of the timbers referred to may be seen and special information obtained.

#### Proposed Seven Dials Improvement Scheme.

A proposal has been made for the development of part of the district of Seven Dials by clearing practically the whole area south of Broad Street, from Shaftesbury Avenue to the junction of High Holborn and New Oxford Street. The scheme, which emanates from Sir George Parker, ex-Mayor of Holborn, would displace about 4,500 dwellers in poor tenements, for whom accommodation would have to be found elsewhere. It involves the purchase of properties covering about 13 acres, and the land cleared would be devoted to buildings for commercial purposes and the provision of broader traffic ways, including a wide road from Cambridge Circus to the corner of New Oxford Street, opposite the Holborn municipal offices. The cost of the scheme is put at from £4,000,000 to £5,000,000 ; but it is estimated that the rateable value of the area, now £55,000 per annum, would be raised to £350,000.

#### Competition for the Liège Defence Memorial.

The programme and conditions of competition for designs for the monument at Liège to commemorate the defence of Belgium against the German invader may be consulted in the Institute Library. Plans of the two prepared sites for the monument may be had by forwarding an international money order for 5 fr. to M. Léon Maréchal, Secrétaire de la Commission d'Etude du Projet du Monument Bureau des Beaux-Arts, Hôtel de Ville, Liège. The competition, which will be in two stages, is open to all architects and sculptors of the Allied nations, singly or in collaboration. The estimated cost of the monument, apart from the lay-out of the site, is put at 1,000,000 fr., and 100,000 fr. is to be distributed in premiums—10,000 fr. to the authors of the designs considered meritorious in the preliminary competition but not admitted to the final, and 90,000 fr. for premiums in the second stage. Each participant in the final competition will receive a premium of not less than 5,000 fr. The jury will consist of Belgian and French sculptors and architects, delegates respectively of

the State, province and town, and two delegates chosen by the Commission. Designs submitted in the preliminary competition must be sent in not later than the 1st December next.

**"Ideal Public House": Drawings on View at the Institute.**

One hundred and ninety designs were submitted in the competition organised by Messrs. Samuel Allsopp & Sons, Ltd., for an "Ideal Public House," and the premiums have been awarded as follows:—

First (£200).—Mr. W. Kidd, Chelsea.

Second (£175).—Mr. Charles C. Voysey, Gower Street, W.C.

Third (£125).—Mr. T. R. Lodge [A.], South Kensington. Mr. W. Curtis Green [F.] was the assessor.

The whole of the competition designs are on view in the R.I.B.A. Galleries, 9, Conduit Street, W., until the end of August.

**Professional and other Announcements.**

A Civil List pension of £70 has been granted to Mrs. Bentley, widow of Mr. J. F. Bentley architect of Westminster Cathedral, in recognition of her late husband's distinction as an architect.

MR. J. WILSON PATERSON, M.B.E. [A.], the architect-in-charge, received from the King a diamond scarf pin before His Majesty left Holyrood Palace as a mark of appreciation of the excellent manner in which the various arrangements had been carried out by the staff of H.M. Office of Works.

MR. F. T. W. GOLDSMITH [F.] has been elected Master of the Plasterers' Company.

MESSRS. KNAPP-FISHER [A.], Powell and Russell [A.], have moved from 33, Palace Street to 133, Ebury Street, S.W.1.

MR. GEOFFREY C. WILSON [A.] has joined the firm of Messrs. Bourehier, Tatchell and Galsworthy, of 25, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster. The title of the firm will remain unchanged for the present.

MR. STEPHEN WILKINSON [F.] has removed from 32, Charing Cross, Whitehall, to 7, Victoria Street, Westminster. Telephone: Victoria 2174.

MR. ERNEST G. W. SOUSTER [A.] has removed from 13, John Street, Adelphi, to 3, St. James's Street, S.W.1.

jected at an angle of 45° in line, monochrome, or colour. Drawings in subjects (b) are to be finished as working drawings. Lettering on all drawings must be of a clear, scholarly, and unaffected character.

*Subject LII.*

(a) AN OPEN WOODEN STAIR FOR AN HOTEL in a space of 30 feet deep by 15 feet wide, exclusive of width of a corridor on each floor. A lift is not to be included. Ground floor to first floor, 15 feet; first floor to second floor, 13 feet; second floor to third floor, 11 feet 6 inches; third floor to fourth floor, 11 feet 6 inches.

*Drawings.*—Plans, two sections,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale, with  $\frac{1}{2}$  full size details.

(b) CONVALESCENT HOME FOR FIFTY MEN WORKERS, on a hilly site, overlooking an industrial city.—Accommodation to include club room or lounge, writing room and common dining room, necessary bedrooms and staff accommodation.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plan, sections and two elevations.

*Subject LIII.*

(a) A GRAND ENTRANCE TO CROSS-CHANNEL TUNNEL, to take four lines normal gauge railroad tracks.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch section and elevation. Perspective drawing not larger than 14 inches by 10 inches, showing relation to surrounding country.

(b) A SWIMMING BATH AND GYMNASIUM FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL—to accommodate 75 at a time.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$  inch scale: plan, section and two elevations.

*Subject LIV.*

(a) A VILLA WITH A COURTYARD FOR A HOT CLIMATE—villa to be of moderate size and in no case to have more than ten bedrooms.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plan, section and elevations; and  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch detail.

(b) A SMALL COUNTRY RAILWAY STATION in the Midlands, with usual accommodation for passengers and goods and further including a stationmaster's house with the B3 accommodation standard of the Ministry of Health.

*Drawings.*— $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale: plan, section and two elevations.

*Dates for Submission of Designs in 1920-21*

	Subj. LII.	Subj. LIII.	Subj. LIV.
United Kingdom	31st Aug.	30th Oct.	31st Dec.
Johannesburg	30th Oct.	31st Dec.	28th Feb.
Melbourne	30th Nov.	31st Jan.	31st Mar.
Sydney	30th Nov.	31st Jan.	31st Mar.
Toronto	30th Sep.	30th Nov.	31st Jan.

**COMPETITIONS.**

**Woking War Memorial.**

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above competition are unsatisfactory. The Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime, Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the Competition.

ASSISTANTS.—Wanted two good architectural Assistants, and a Junior. Address, "Box 275," The Secretary, R.I.B.A.

OFFICE.—Architect with spare office, Bedford Row district, offers same to architect starting practice in return for help in daytime. Telephone, name, etc. Address, "Box 278," The Secretary, R.I.B.A.

ASSOCIATE, age 35, able chief assistant of long standing, desires post as chief with prospects of partnership. Exceptionally good designer and draughtsman, experienced in all branches and accustomed to control large staff and take complete responsibility. Long experience of Housing. Ranks and commissioned service in war. Present salary, £650 p.a.—Apply "Box 280," The Secretary R.I.B.A.

**THE EXAMINATIONS.**

**The Final: Alternative Problems in Design.**

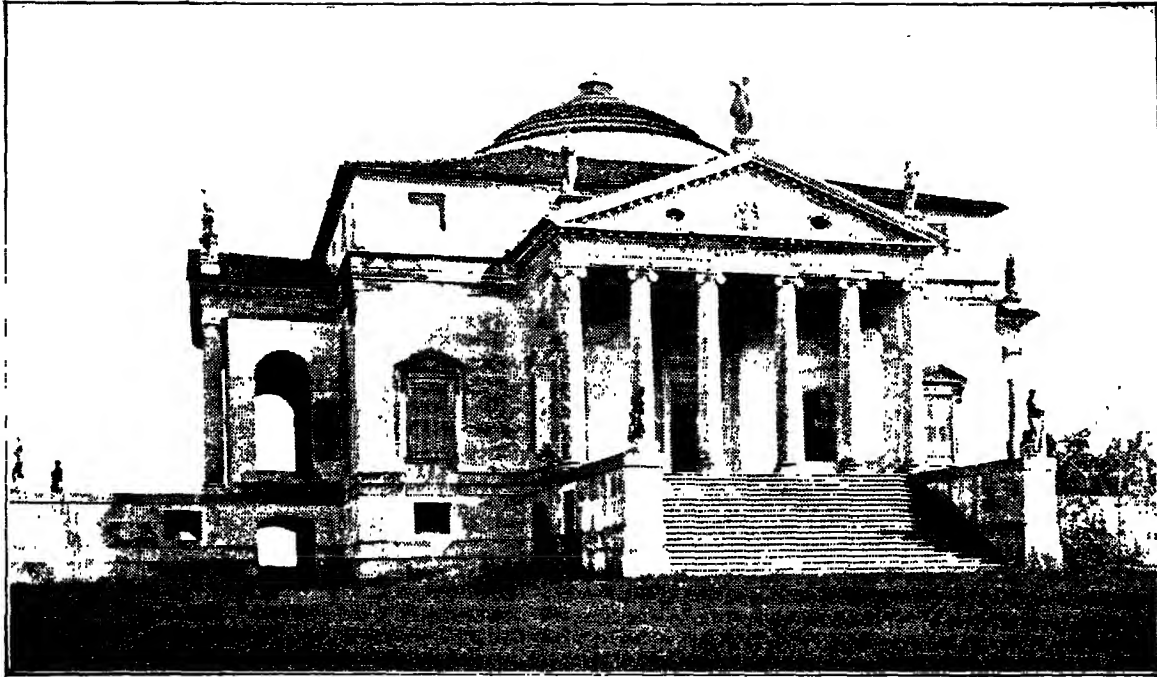
*Instructions to Candidates.*

1. The drawings, which should preferably be on uniform sheets of paper of not less than Imperial size, must be sent to the Secretary of the Board of Architectural Education, Royal Institute of British Architects, 9 Conduit Street, W., on or before the dates specified below.

2. Each set of drawings must be signed by the author, AND HIS FULL NAME AND ADDRESS, and the name of the school, if any, in which the drawings have been prepared must be attached thereto.

3. All designs, whether done in a school or not, must be accompanied by a declaration from the Student that the design is his own work and that the drawings have been wholly executed by him. In the preparation of the design the Student may profit by advice.

4. Drawings for subjects (a) are to have the shadows pro-



VILLA ROTUNDA, VICENZA

## THE VILLA PALLADIANA, VICENZA.

By FREDK. R. HIORNS [A.], *Godwin Bursar*, 1905.

AT the southern end of the Venetian plain—that portion which stretches eastward from the Veronese Alps to the Lagoons—are two hills, or, rather, clumps of hills, which break the otherwise general flatness of the low-lying land. These are the Monti Berici, rising some fourteen hundred feet, and the Colli Euganei, which reaches to nearly two thousand—both of volcanic origin, and surrounded, for long ages, with fertile and beautiful country. The Euganean hills occur some miles south-west of Padua, and are a prominent feature in the landscape as seen from Venice: the Berician mount is immediately south of, and adjacent to, Vicenza, and on its lower eastern slope is the Villa Almerico, Capra, or Rotunda, the masterpiece, as regards domestic works, of Palladio.

It was a hard decree of fate that caused in 1917\* the retirement of the Italian Army to the Piave line; so that Venetia, rich in all that one associates with beauty, was again overrun by the long-time enemies of its native races, and that portion of its territory not actually subjected to invasion placed in peril such as those who care for what it typifies in art and beauty could only contemplate with pain. The nearest point of the Piave is little more than thirty miles from Vicenza, while the Asiago plateau (north of Monte Melago), where some very hard fighting took place, is, perhaps, little more than twenty miles to the north of that city. In defence against invasion through the Venetian plain the two hills of Berici and Euganei are of considerable strategic importance—just as the surrounding country has from the remotest ages been the scene of deadly battles and ruthless destruction. It is doubtless on this account that there occurs, to the west, the famous quadrilateral of fortresses, Verona, Mantua, Legnago, and Peschiera, supplementing the natural defences and

\* When this note was written Vicenza and other cities of North-east Italy were in great danger. A recently published statement shows that 10,000 square kilometres of territory—almost wholly in Venetia—suffered practical destruction at the hands of the Austrians, and that more

than 75,000 dwelling-houses were seriously damaged, a quarter of this number being razed to the ground. In addition to this, 87 churches were reduced to ruins and a further 158 damaged.

guarding a position of vital importance to the safety of Italy from its northern approaches. War—impelled, except in so far as it is defensive, by instincts of primitive savagery—is always cruel and destructive to man and his works, and none has been more so than that recently pursued in the sacred name of *Kultur*.

Andrea Palladio was born at Vicenza in 1518, and, in the ten years which followed the year 1541, he spent a considerable portion of his time in Rome, and other places, studying the remains of ancient architecture, records of which were subsequently published in his books. At this period he had already acquired repute as an architect, and by 1550 had completed what is, in some respects, his most notable work—the addition of the two-storeyed arcade which encloses and masks the mediæval Palazzo della Ragione, or Basilica Palladiana, as now called, of his native city. Vicenza is full of his palaces and the countryside of his villas, or those of his followers, but of the latter none is more famous than that which he designed for Paolo Almerico, the ecclesiastic, and which is so beautifully placed upon Monte Berico. This sumptuous example of the relatively small country house is of the nature of a landmark to all Vicentine visitors for whom fine architecture is of interest, and has been so since its construction. It is reached by an easy walk of less than a mile from the city. Near by are the Villa Valmarana, with Tiepolo frescoes, and the Servite Church of S. Maria del Monte, with its remarkable arcaded approach, climbing the hill, and Montagna's splendid picture of the Madonna and Saints bewailing the dead Christ. Glorious views are obtained from the ridges of the mount—of the Alps beyond Bassano, together with that town, Schio, and Treviso; the course of the Brenta, the Euganean hills, Padua, and even of the Venetian lagoons away to the extreme east. The valleys formed by the Berician and Euganean hills have been in repute for their waters and health-giving qualities since early Roman times, and the soil still retains that remarkable fertility which Martial praised. It is not surprising, then, that such a site should offer attractions for a rural pleasure house, added to the advantages it possessed in proximity to the associations of a cultured and remarkable city.

The Villa Almerico was clearly one of Palladio's later works, though not so much so but that the design appears in the 1570 Venetian edition of his books. The description which he gives of it is as follows \*: —

Amongst many honourable Vicentine gentlemen there is Monsignor Paolo Almerico, an ecclesiastick who was referendary to two supreme Popes, Pio the fourth and fifth, and who for his merit deserved to be made a Roman citizen with all his family. This gentleman, after having travelled many years out of a desire of honour, all his relations being dead, came to his native country and for his recreation retired to one of his country houses upon a hill, . . . where he has built according to the following invention . . . . The site is as pleasant and as delightful as can be found because it is upon a small hill of very easy access and is watered on one side by the Bacchiglione, a navigable river, and on the other encompassed with most pleasant risings which look like a very great theatre and are all cultivated and abound with most excellent fruits and most exquisite vines; and therefore as it enjoys from every part most beautiful views, some of which are limited, some more extended, and others that terminate with the horizon, there are loggias made in all the four fronts under the floor of which and of the hall are the rooms for the conveniency and use of the family. The hall is in the middle, is round, and receives its light from above. The small rooms are divided off. Over the great rooms there is a place to walk round the hall. . . . In the extremity of the pedestals that form a support to the stairs of the loggias there are statues made by the hands of Messer Lorenzo Vicentino, a very excellent sculptor.

The name of its original owner, Almerico, was not long associated with the building, for it appears to have passed very soon into the possession of the Capra family. This will explain why the villa is so generally designated Capra and not Almerico.

Vincenzio Scamozzi † (1552-1616) completed several of the works of Palladio, including the Teatro Olimpico‡ at Vicenza and the Church of San Giorgio at Venice, and according to his namesake,

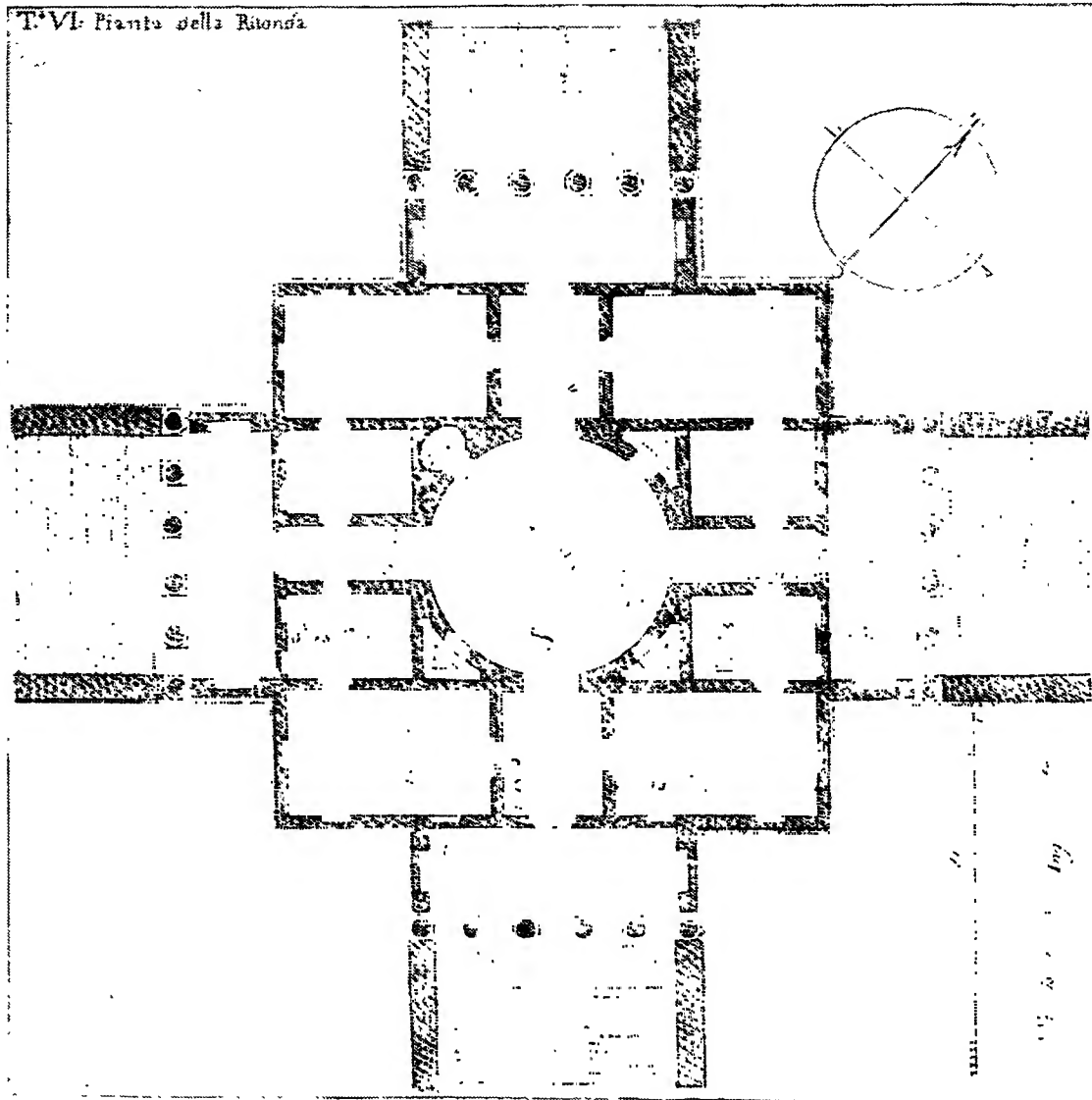
\* Second book. Ware's translation, 1738.

† Like Palladio, a native of Vicenza, and chiefly famous for his extension of Sansovino's Library, Venice, into the Square of S. Mark.

‡ The Olympic Academy of Vicenza was founded in the year 1555 for the encouragement of polite literature. Its members revived the acting of Greek plays and, finding the existing buildings unsuitable, commissioned Palladio

to construct a theatre on the classical model, which he did so that "the spirit of ancient genius seemed to revive and the spectator might have imagined himself at Athens." The Latin inscription over the stage states that "to Virtue and Genius the Academy of the Olympics in the year 1584 raised from its foundation this theatre, of which Palladio was the architect."

Ottavio Bertotti Scamozzi, it seems that the Villa Rotonda was acquired by the Capra family before its completion and finished by Vincenzo, at their instruction, after Palladio's death in 1580. In that case it appears likely that the roofing-over of the central domed hall is due to him, the treatment being quite different from that proposed by Palladio, as shown by the woodcut illustration in his book.\*



The connection of the Capra family with the Villa is commemorated in an inscription on the portico pediments, which, pieced together, reads :—

Marcus Capra Gabrielis filius  
 Qui ædes has  
 Artissimo primogenituræ gradui subiecit  
 Una cum omnibus  
 Censibus agris vallibus et collibus  
 Citra viam magnam  
 Memoræ perpetuæ mandans hæc  
 Dum sustinet ac abstinet.

\* Palladio designed a house for Giulio Capra to be built on a "most beautiful site, in the principal street of the city" (Vicenza). It is illustrated in plate 14 of Palladio's second book.

James Dallaway,\* the eighteenth century English antiquary, who visited the building in 1796, was shown over it by the then Marquis, who claimed that it was originally built as a summer residence for four brothers of his family, who each had his own distinct suite of apartments. This is not in agreement with other records, including that of Palladio himself, but it supports, anyway, the early connection of the Capra family with the Villa, while the inscription emphasises the care taken to ensure the succession, within the family, of both the house and lands. Vincenzo Scamozzi left, it is said, property to be awarded to one of his countrymen who should be adjudged the best architect of his day, under the obligation, however, of assuming his name. Ottavio Bertotti, born in 1726, was eventually selected for this inheritance by the head of the Capra family† of that time, and, having assumed the name of his benefactor, he brought him additional honour, and, at the same time, worthily celebrated his own good fortune, by producing an extremely fine book illustrative of Palladio's works,‡ together with the less ambitious but charming handbook, *Il Forestiere istrutto nelle cose più rare di architettura . . . della città di Vicenza*, from which the engraved plan and section here reproduced are taken. The original edition of 1761 is dedicated to the Marquis Mario Capra and contains his engraved portrait. The house is described as "La Rotonda, o sia Palazzo suburbano delli Nobb. Sigg. Marchesi Capra." Another engraved view of about the same period states it to be a "Prospetto della Rotonda dei Nobb. S. Sig. March. Marzio e Gabriele Fratelli Capra."

The main body of the building forms a square of about seventy-five feet side, from which project the porticos, following Palladio's own principle of emphasising the position of the entrance—in this case one on each face and presumably all equally important—by a columniated doorway or portico. Each portico is approached by a flight of steps of its full width, which enlarges the enclosing square to over one hundred and fifty feet across, the rise of the steps embracing the height of the basement storey. In the latter are placed the domestic offices, an arrangement more advantageous and convenient to the proprietor than to his servants. The porticos are roughly forty feet by sixteen feet on plan, with columns of the Ionic order—the favourite of Palladio and usually treated with much elegance—twenty-one feet in height. The larger rooms on the main floor scale twenty-eight feet by eighteen feet, the height of this storey being about twenty-three feet. The circular central hall is rather more than thirty-two feet in diameter and is covered internally by a dome—hemispherical in accordance with his invariable practice—the crown of which is roughly fifty-five feet above the floor. A projecting gallery around this hall gives access to the upper floor rooms. Staircases fill the spandrels in the plan formed by the junction of the circular hall with the square walls of the main block, and, being of the "makeshift" variety, add nothing to the effect of the interior. The external treatment of the dome differs, as already mentioned, from Palladio's proposal, and its effect, as executed under Scamozzi's direction, is probably better than the original design would have produced. Its apex is over seventy-five feet from the ground—no mean height for a country villa. In conjunction with the main roof it forms an original and pleasing termination to the general mass of the building—the projecting porticos, with their roofs stopped in the depth of the attic stage, grouping with the rest quite happily. In fact, it is one of the notable qualities of Palladio's designs that prominence is given to the roofing of his buildings, so that it becomes an important factor in the massing of his compositions. Reference to the many designs illustrated in his book will show that this is so. This building, moreover, emphasises the decorative value—if one may put it so—of large plain spaces, a quality often neglected in architectural compositions, and particularly in fenestration. The general simplicity of treatment produces that dignity of effect which caused Fergusson to describe it as "perhaps the most classical

\* See *Anecdotes of the Arts in England*, by James Dallaway, M.B., F.S.A., 1800.

† The Marquises Capra were executors of Vincenzo Scamozzi's will.

‡ *Le Fabbriche e Disegni di Andrea Palladio*. 4 Vols. Fotio. Vicenza, 1776.

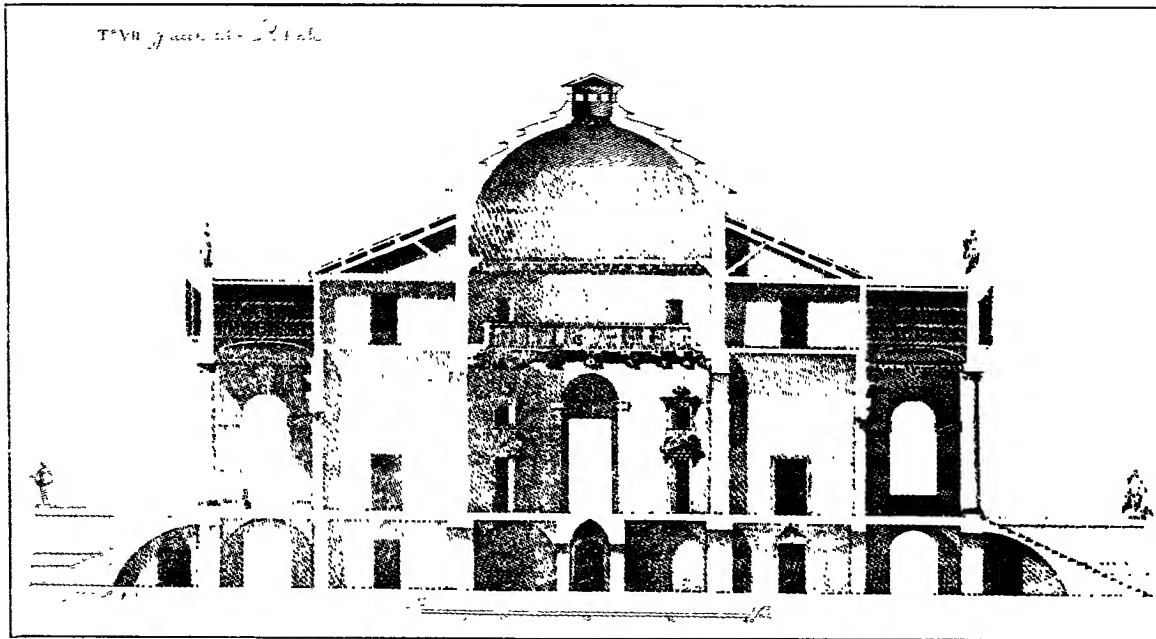
|| "In all the houses which I have built in the country,

and also in some of those which I have made in towns, I have always placed a pediment where the chief entrance is, because it makes the principal entry to the house more conspicuous, and contributes very much to the magnificence and grandeur of the building."—Palladio's second book.

and temple-like design ever applied to domestic architecture." The situation of the building, "at the point of a hill advancing from the general line," entirely justifies the plan, and the portico treatment affords the pleasantest opportunities for catching views from all four points of the compass while, at the same time, protecting the interior from the hot rays of the summer sun. As has been well said,\*

No other position could have suited the house so well, and no other house, either larger or smaller, or with any other arrangement, would have been so well adapted to the situation. Internally it is equally admirable . . . the rooms form altogether one suite of apartments, four of which are intended for bedrooms; but this, in the system of Italian manners, would be no objection to their being thrown open to receive company, and here, whatever may be the time of day, you are sure of shade, air, and beautiful scenery.

A man would want little more for the enjoyment of life than what this house, with its delightful garden and surroundings, affords. Its plan has had many imitators and, assuming the possible omission of



superfluous porticos—which other sites or circumstances might not justify—and the placing of a worthy staircase in the space occupied by one of the vestibules, it offers suggestions for present-day application. The problem apparently interested Lord Burlington, among others: his villa at Chiswick is said to have been inspired by it, though the adaptation appears not to have met with complete success if Lord Chesterfield's ironic verse is in any way truthful:

Possessed of one great house of state,  
Without one room to sleep or eat,  
How well you build let flattery tell  
And all mankind how ill you dwell.

The fame of Palladio's Rotunda was so great that it attracted many interested visitors. Goethe was there in 1786, as related in his *Memoirs*, and he gives it as his opinion that "probably the luxury of architecture was never carried to so high a point. The space occupied by the steps and vestibules is much larger than that occupied by the house itself: for every one of the sides is as

\* Woods, *Letters of an Architect* 1828.



grand and pleasing as the front of a temple. . . . The variety which is produced by the principal mass, as, together with the projecting columns, it is gradually brought before the eyes of the spectator who walks round it, is very great : and the purpose of the owner, who wished to leave a large trust estate, and at the same time a visible monument of his wealth, is completely achieved. You may see the Bacchiglione flowing along, and taking vessels down from Verona\* to the Brenta, while you overlook the extensive possessions which the Marquis Capra wished to preserve undivided in his family." Goethe had an almost idolatrous admiration for Palladio, whom he speaks of as " a man really and intrinsically great, whose greatness was outwardly manifested," and goes on to say that " there is indeed something divine about his designs, which may be exactly compared to the creations of the great poet who, out of truth and falsehood, elaborates something between both, and charms us with its borrowed existence." And at another time, visiting a sculpture collection in Venice, he says : " Palladio has opened the road for me to this and every other art and life." While in Vicenza he called upon " the old architect Scamozzi,† who has published an edition of Palladio's buildings, and is a diligent artist, passionately devoted to his art." Nor is it strange that so great a hero-worshipper searched for a copy of Palladio's book and found it at Padua, " not indeed," he says, " the original edition which I saw at Vicenza, where the cuts are in wood, but a facsimile in copper, published at the expense of an excellent man named Smith, who was formerly the English Consul at Venice. We must give the English this credit, that they have long known how to prize what is good, and have a magnificent way of diffusing it."‡

If excellence in architecture consists in expressing beautifully and correctly the purpose of a building, then nothing could indicate more suitably than this Villa at Vicenza the courtly and picturesque dignity and elegance associated with the life of a cultured Italian gentleman in the sixteenth century. The correct expression of ideas is a primary difficulty of the architectural designer, and it was a great quality in Palladio that he invariably surmounted it successfully. The understanding of Roman buildings acquired in his early studies caused him to apply, with facility and ease, the principles they embodied to modern requirements. This he did very judiciously, and with great variety and originality of treatment, so that his system became the model that, more perhaps than any other, influenced the course of Renaissance Architecture in Europe. It was certainly so as regards England, where Inigo Jones introduced the new manner as an avowed disciple of Palladio, and where the latter's books have been the recognised training manual for students. As Milizia puts it, " the most cultivated nations of Europe study his books, and the English justly consider him the Newton of architecture " This resulted from a general acceptance of both Palladio's teaching and practice as being sound and reasonable, and from recognition of the fact that § " he had at his disposal all the means, all the combinations which the elementary parts of architecture could furnish, and the art of moulding them to his use without exceeding the just medium which Art permits." He was undoubtedly prolific in ideas, and skilful and ingenious in his adaptations of classic precedents to the requirements of his day. So that, though a tendency to academic pedantry may have proved a drag on his imagination, || Palladio yet retained, and revealed in his work, a considerable measure of originality ; and one is continually charmed by the variety and freshness of his buildings. As that excellent scholar Joseph Forsyth has finely said,\*\* " their beauty originates in the design, and is never superinduced by ornament. Their elevations enchant you, not by length and altitude, nor by the materials and sculpture, but by the consummate felicity of their proportions, by the harmonious distribution

\* There is surely some mistake here. Perhaps Vicenza is meant, not Verona.

† Evidently Ottavio Bertotti Scamozzi, already referred to.

‡ A graceful compliment which, from such a source, reads somewhat amusingly now. Later, when at Venice Goethe visited the Lido, and the English burial place there, where, he says, " I found the tomb of Smith, the

noble English Consul, and of his first wife. It is to him that I owe my first copy of Palladio ; I thanked him for it here in his unconsecrated grave "

§ Wyatt Papworth.

|| See " Andrea Palladio," in Sir Reginald Blomfield's delightful *Studies in Architecture*.

\*\* *Remarks on Antiquities, Arts, and Letters in Italy*, in the years 1802 and 1803.

of solid and void, by that happy something between flat and prominent which charms both in front and profile; by that *maëstria* which calls in columns not to encumber but to support, and reproduces ancient beauty in combinations unknown to the ancients themselves."

Unfortunately Palladio seems to have had little real appreciation of the qualities, and æsthetic value, of materials, and he used them very indifferently. He was also, to some extent, the victim of the conditions obtaining in his day, which, in his Vicentine work at least, forced him to obtain ambitious results at small cost and with the poor materials which the district allowed—so that his buildings generally are constructed of brick and finished externally with stucco, the Villa Capra being no exception. Vicentine stone is a notoriously unsatisfactory building material, and Palladio's *intónaco*, which produced a very hard surface, was probably the most effective substitute he could procure consistent with the apparently restricted means of his patrons. This plaster seems to have been a compound of burnt marble and lime.\* It is said of him, moreover, that he preferred constructing his edifices of brick for the reason that ancient buildings of burnt earth, covered with composition, remained more entire than those of stone. To have produced such effects as he did, despite the disadvantages of inferior materials, is greatly to the credit of Palladio as an architect, and the products of his genius illustrate again the value of scholarly proportion as the premier æsthetic quality of fine building. For, as Sir Wm. Chambers has put it, "an able writer can move even in rustic language, and the masterly dispositions of a skilful artist will dignify the meanest materials; while the weak efforts of the ignorant render the most costly enrichments despicable." Small wonder, then, that such skill was in general demand by the Vicentine gentry of his day—whose family pride seemed so generally in excess of their material wealth—and that, as a result, one writer on North Italian life professes to see "the cold hand of that friend of virtuous poverty in architecture lie heavy upon his native city."†

The Huns of Attila ravaged, in A.D. 452, the district in which this villa stands, and laid waste several cities, including Vicenza‡—providing, incidentally, the cause which led to the founding of the island city of Venice. In more recent history the Austrians bombarded Vicenza, in the year 1848, after a battle on Monte Berico, and occupied the Convent of Santa Maria and the Rotonda, stripping the latter of all that could be moved and despoiling, to some extent, its ornaments and statuary. Since then it appears to have been left uninhabited. War is no friend to architecture when it is responsible for the wanton and irreparable mutilation or destruction of so many of its masterpieces. Time and nature, in their effects, have this advantage—that, though certain in destructive force, the process is generally a slow and gradual one, and centuries, perhaps, of gentle caress and varying phases of beauty precede the inevitable end.

All feel the assault of fortune's fickle gale—  
Art, empire, earth itself to change are doomed.

And this old garden, with its glorious plants and flowers—growing now in such wild profusion—tells the same story of abandonment and neglect as the house. The beauty of the picture emphasises its melancholy aspect and fills the mind with regrets.

There is frequently an air of poverty and desolation about Italian buildings that brings one to despair, and the villas of the Brenta and Bacchiglione are not devoid of it—having nothing, in some

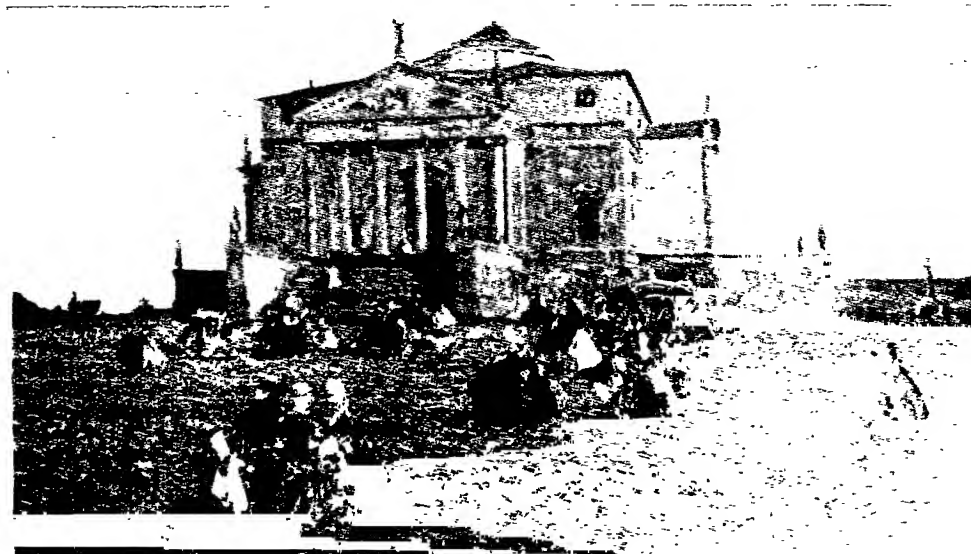
\* The floors are considered to be formed of a similar mixture and of pounded brick. When rolled with a heavy roller the surface became so highly polished as to resemble "porphyry or verd-antique."

† W. D. Howells (*Italian Journeys*)—with whose opinion we do not necessarily agree.

‡ "The Huns mounted to the assault with irresistible fury; and the succeeding generation could scarcely discover the ruins of Aquileia. After this dreadful punishment Attila pursued his march; and as he passed the cities of

Altinum, Concordia, and Padua were reduced into heaps of stones and ashes. The inland towns, Vicenza, Verona, and Bergamo were exposed to the rapacious cruelty of the Huns. Milan and Pavia submitted, without resistance, to the loss of their wealth, and applauded the unusual clemency which preserved from the flames the public, as well as private, buildings: and spared the lives of the captive multitude."—Gibbon, *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.

cases, but the painful suggestion of contrast to connect them with the olden days of light-hearted pleasure-seeking, when they formed a setting for scenes of gay enjoyment or of splendour in which the human element played its appropriate part. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it was the fashion of the merchants and gentry of Venice to build villas, or "palazzini," in beautiful natural positions on the Venetian mainland, particularly on rising ground or lining the edge of rivers, and to decorate them internally with the work of native painters and externally to surround them with finely planned gardens, enclosures and statuary. Life must then have appeared in its most pleasurable aspect, even as now an abandoned mansion and neglected, weed-grown, garden suggest almost the extreme of wasted opportunity and desolation. Perhaps a revived Italy following the Great War, will cure the evil; and increasing prosperity restore the appropriate use of those fine structures which ill-fortune has too long withheld from the proper fulfilment of their purpose. Even fine architecture must lose somewhat in effect when separated from the human associations that give it meaning. The atmosphere of charming and elegant romanticism which one may suitably connect with the earlier history of this building—as is, for example, finely imagined in Signorina Ciardi's recent painting, "*Il convegno alla Villa Rotonda*"—will never recur, but perhaps we may look for an aspect of life in the future that is more real, if less pictorial, and, maybe, better worth having. It would be pleasant, anyway, to see—as part of a general change for the better that we hope for—abandoned and desolated Italian villas restored to use once more; no longer conveying only the suggestion of "sad-coloured, weather-worn stucco hermitages, where the mutilated statues, swaggering above the gates, forlornly commemorate days when it was a far finer thing to be a noble than it is now."



From the painting, by Ettore Cadori.

RETROSPECT

## THE UNIFICATION COMMITTEE.

Discussion at the First Meeting, 20th July.\*

Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President*, in the Chair

The SECRETARY (Mr. Ian MacAlister): The report of the Special General Meeting of the R.I.B.A. on the 22nd of March, which was summoned for the purpose of obtaining the sanction of the general body of members for the Council's proposals as the first step towards the unification and registration of the profession, has been circulated to all the Members of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Does the Committee wish the report of the Committee to be read? It has been circulated and published. [*Agreed to be taken as read.*]

The SECRETARY: That report was discussed, and the following resolutions were passed.

1. "That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to prepare and present, for the consideration of the profession, a more extended and comprehensive scheme than that covered by the Resolutions of 1911."
2. "That this General Meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects approves of the Council's proposal to appoint a Committee representative of the whole profession to prepare such a scheme as is indicated in the report of the Charter Committee, dated 20th February 1920."

In pursuance of those resolutions the different bodies specified were asked to send representatives, the invitations were accepted in all cases, and the Committee has now been called together for its inaugural Meeting.

The CHAIRMAN: There is a little preliminary business which we had better get through as soon as possible before we start the discussion. We should appoint a Vice-Chairman and an Honorary Secretary of the General Committee, and we ought to ask the Committee to appoint an Executive, as there will be a good deal of detail to work out. It should be as small as convenient. Has anybody views as to who should be the Vice-Chairman?

MAJOR BARNES, M.P.: I would like to move that the Vice-Chairman be the President of the Society of Architects.

Mr. YERBURY seconded. [*Carried unanimously.*]

The CHAIRMAN: We have now to elect an Honorary Secretary.

Mr. MAURICE WEBB: I propose Mr. Arthur Keen be appointed the Honorary Secretary.

Mr. F. R. TAYLOR seconded. [*Carried unanimously.*]

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS: Before we come to the Executive Committee, may I suggest we do not appoint an Executive Committee, but rather that we appoint a Sub-Committee? I do not think it would be wise at present to appoint an Executive Committee. Probably it may be the same thing, but an Executive Committee has power to carry out proposals which possibly we may know nothing about. I think all matters of policy should be decided by this Committee. I would not like to hand over my power to an Executive Committee and be bound by its decisions. In the big charity affairs there is a huge committee, and you hand over your functions to the Executive Committee to do all the work, and the General Committee politely retires and does nothing. None of us here, I am sure, wants to retire and do nothing. It would be wiser, I think, to simply appoint a Sub-Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: After all, I think it is only a question of names: there is no intention to give the Executive Committee power to carry things out. There will be drafting of schemes to do. I have ventured to draft a list for a Sub-Committee which, I think, should be as widely representative as possible of the different views on the subject which have been put forward. Perhaps you will be kind enough to take them down, gentlemen. The Chairman,

\* A list of members present was given in the *Minute* of this Meeting published in the last issue of the JOURNAL.

Vice-Chairman, and Honorary Secretary are on it *ex officio*. I have carefully chosen these names as those of men who will probably be able to give time to the matter, because a good deal of time will be required. It will be open to anybody to suggest other names.

Representing the Royal Institute: Mr. James Gibson, Sir Banister Fletcher, Mr. Horace Cubitt, Mr. Leonard Elkington, Mr. Penty, Major Barnes, M.P.

For the Society of Architects: I have not had time to consult the Society, but I suggest Mr. Sadgrove. How many names have you to suggest, Mr. Sadgrove?

Mr. SADGROVE: Besides myself, Sir Charles Ruthen, Mr. McArthur Butler, and Mr. Noel Sheffield.

The CHAIRMAN: For the Architectural Association: Mr. Maurice Webb. For the Official Architects: Mr. Sydney Perks. For the Institute of Scottish Architects: Mr. White. For the Allied Societies: Mr. Buckland (Birmingham). For the Unattached Architects: Mr. G. E. Marshall (Liverpool).

That list gives us seventeen names, and I think that is a large enough Sub-Committee. But it is open to anybody to make suggestions.

Mr. EVANS: The Architects' Assistants' Professional Union are not represented on that Sub-Committee.

Mr. PENTY: My name has been mentioned, but I am sorry to say I shall not be able to give the necessary time. I would like to suggest Mr. Yerbury in my place.

Mr. PERKS: May we add Mr. Welch? I have not consulted him, but he has taken a great interest in this matter.

The CHAIRMAN: We do not want to make the number too large, but there is no objection, I think, to making it nineteen.

Mr. PERKS: I move that Mr. Welch's name be added. I am very much obliged to you for submitting my name, but I would suggest Mr. Riley's name in my place: he is President of the Official Architects' Association. Failing him, I shall be glad to stand.

The CHAIRMAN: We will leave that to you, Mr. Perks.

Mr. PENTY: I suggest the Architects' Assistants' Union be represented, and for it I nominate Mr. Evans.

The CHAIRMAN: I put it to the meeting that there be a representative of the Architects' Assistants' Union on the Sub-Committee, and that Mr. Evans be that representative. [*Carried.*]

The CHAIRMAN: The Sub-Committee will be in constant touch with the General Committee, and nothing can be done without this General Committee approving every step that may be taken.

Mr. EVANS: I think you should state now, before the Sub-Committee is elected, what work it is proposed we should delegate to that Sub-Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: That, obviously, we shall have to decide to-day. We cannot decide that until the General Committee has formulated its policy. It will depend upon this Committee what the Sub-Committee will do. We are only appointing a Sub-Committee to do the spade-work of drafting. I will read the names: The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Honorary Secretary *ex officio*, Mr. Gibson, Sir Banister Fletcher, Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Elkington, Mr. Yerbury, Major Barnes, Mr. Noel Sheffield, Sir Charles Ruthen, Mr. McArthur Butler, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Maurice Webb, Mr. Sydney Perks (or Mr. Riley), Mr. White, Mr. Buckland, Mr. Welch, Mr. Llewellyn Evans.

Mr. PERKS: I formally move that list.

Mr. CORLETTE: I second it.

It was unanimously agreed that these gentlemen form the Sub-Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: We now come to the real business of the meeting, and that is, the unification and registration of the profession. As far as unification of the profession is concerned, I am not quite sure that the fact of this meeting is not, in itself, a proof that the profession has been unified, and that we are prepared to discuss here amicably

what our policy should be in the future. We have met here with the lessons of the war before us; indeed, the demand for a Single Command of the Armies is still fresh in our minds. We have met at a time which, I think, we have never experienced previously, when all bitterness has disappeared between the different sections of the profession, and we are all agreed to pursue a common purpose and to set aside all selfish interests whatever. It is really, in its way, an historic occasion in the profession—we have met as a Parliament of Architects. No man here represents himself; everyone here represents a body of constituents behind him, and, together, we may claim to represent every reputable member of the profession. (Hear, hear.) A common end, therefore, is agreed upon, and it only remains for us now to decide the best means of carrying out that object and making the result permanent.

Before we begin the discussion I would like to define my own position in the matter. You have been good enough to make me Chairman. I conceive the first duty of a Chairman is to be perfectly independent and impartial. I have done my work, in a way, in getting this meeting together, and you may take it from me that there will be no kind of influence used, no wire-pulling, and no kind of endeavour to influence your decisions in any way, unless it is by open argument such as may appeal to you. That, I think, is the correct position for a Chairman to take up, and you may be sure I shall follow it. (Hear, hear.)

I have heard a great many suggestions made as to how we should proceed, and they seem to me to be capable of being boiled down to two alternatives: there is very much to be said, I think, for both of them. The first idea or suggestion—which, for convenience of reference, I may call “A”—is the absorption of all existing societies into one body. Well, that presents some obvious difficulties at the outset. But those difficulties should not prevent our very full consideration of such a course, and especially so if we think that its subsequent result is likely to be for the benefit of the profession. If, however, such a course is likely to lead to internal dissensions later on, then it will not effect the real purpose of this body, which is to unify the profession—and unification, of course, is not necessarily synonymous with amalgamation. The point is, we want to get on to the same lines and to use every effort towards a common policy.

The second alternative—which I will call “B”—seems to be to take all the existing bodies as they are—to allow, so to speak, all the rivers and rivulets to run in the beds which they have formed for themselves by time, and to connect them all up with a sort of “cut,” of which the force will be directed to turning the mill-wheel of registration. That is the line of least resistance, in the initial stage, at any rate. It is for you to consider whether the ultimate flow will be more, or less, smooth than that which would be effected by the first scheme I have put before you in brief and called “A.” But, essentially, the need is that whatever conclusion is arrived at should be reached by free and kindly argument and by reason, so that the profession will be practically unanimous, and, having arrived at a decision, everyone will give it, as the policy agreed upon, full support and help to make it work. Unification will be merely a phrase unless it is based upon two great facts: the first is mutual goodwill, and the second is the absence of all selfishness.

With regard to our meeting to-day, it may be impossible—it may not even be desirable—that we should finally come to a decision as to which of those policies, or what policy, we should agree upon. We have set up our Sub-Committee, and I think the great thing is to get it to work as soon as possible. It may be that its members will be asked to draft the skeleton, not of one scheme only but of two, and circulate those outlines to the members of this Committee, who have, in their turn, to consult their constituent bodies, and meet again later to decide definitely what should be done. For the moment I ask you not to

trouble about details, the full-size drawings, so to speak, but to set your minds on the main drawings and consider the details later on. (Applause). There is no order of speaking: anybody can start the ball.

Mr. IVOR JONES: One thing which occurred to me with regard to the selection of this Sub-Committee was this. I take it that the Sub-Committee will place before the General Committee the draft scheme they come to and that the matter will be voted upon?

The CHAIRMAN: Agreed upon, I hope. The procedure will be that this Committee will remit to the Sub-Committee the general lines of policy and ask them to draft a scheme.

Mr. JONES: The point I wished to raise was this. Speaking on behalf of the Allied Societies, the members of those Societies represent a very large number, the majority of the profession, and so the Allied Societies are in a responsible position. If we have to come up here to vote upon, or agree to, the findings of the Sub-Committee without taking the opinions of our constituents we shall be in a very awkward position, because, as you said, sir, we are not here personally, and my personal opinion and the opinion of my 150 or more members in South Wales is that we should have the findings of the Sub-Committee before they are brought for decision in the General Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly; that is obvious. The Sub-Committee, as they formulate suggestions, will circulate them before the General Committee meets to consider them, so they will have time to consider the matter themselves and consult their constituent bodies.

Mr. TAYLOR: I think we should put this meeting on a firm basis now. Therefore I move that the Sub-Committee be instructed to draft reports of schemes, as were explained by yourself, such as “A” and “B,” and submit them to the members of this Committee, and after the members of this Committee have considered them with those they represent, this Committee should then meet and discuss the matters before them.

The CHAIRMAN: You suggest that it should be an instruction to the Sub-Committee that they should draft the scheme, or a scheme, under each of those two heads which I outlined in my remarks just now, and circulate them for consideration?

Mr. PERKS: I agree with the suggestion that we should refer to this Sub-Committee to inquire into matters and bring up schemes for consideration, and that we should not limit their effort to “A” or “B,” or even “C”; rather that they should have a free hand. There may be many ways of carrying out this unification, and some other scheme may emerge out of the debate. I think the Sub-Committee should have a free hand to inquire into and bring up various schemes for our consideration. I do not think that at present we can decide it here, because there are so many things which would have to be gone into, and the Sub-Committee may very likely want to get evidence. I should be sorry to decide this afternoon on any one scheme: the matter wants careful consideration first.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think you followed exactly what I said in my remarks. The intention, I suggest, is that it might not be possible or advisable to do this this afternoon, but we could talk about the ways of doing it. But it would be wrong to leave the Sub-Committee in the dark as to how to work. We must give them a line.

Mr. PERKS: I shall be glad to leave it in that way, that they should bring up “A” and “B” and any other scheme which they may think advisable for consideration. I have no other scheme in my head, but there might be one when the matter is discussed. I only want to give them power to bring up anything they may think fit.

Mr. YERBURY: If the character of the Sub-Committee be made as widely representative as possible, they will have a better chance of getting what you want. The only question is, can we get what we want? And if you leave it for the Sub-Committee to bring forward some proposal which we can discuss it will require many days' discussion.

We cannot settle it in one month, perhaps not in one year, but if we work on the lines suggested by the President, I feel sure we shall unify the profession, although I am not so optimistic as you are in thinking we have done so. And I should be glad if you would instruct the Sub-Committee to consider the constitution of this Committee. Even if we arrive at a proposal which will be satisfactory to us when we get it, the other members of the profession who do not belong here may not be able to accept it: fifty-three are R.I.B.A. men and only thirteen are from outside. I think it would be possible for the Society of Architects to nominate ten members who are not members of this Institute, and for the A.A. to nominate ten men who are not members of the Institute. It would be a much bigger Committee, and you would get a decision which would carry something like finality with it. But if you go to the profession generally, and put before them a scheme agreed to by fifty-three members of the Institute and only thirteen representative of architects outside the Institute, I am afraid you will not arrive at the finality you require.

MR. BUTLER: I agree we cannot go into details now, but I think we should have no difficulty in instructing the Sub-Committee, on a question of principle, as to whether this meeting favours what we may call "absorption," or the scheme which you called "federation." They are both matters which can be discussed, I think, without going very much into detail. There are many architects here to-day, and it is the first meeting, and I agree with you, sir, that it is an historic meeting, and one which is likely to have very wide effects. So it seems a pity that we should not, now we are here, consider this matter in some detail, because it is likely we may not get exactly the same representatives together again without some difficulty. Therefore I hope we shall have an opportunity of expressing our opinions on these two problems before the matter is put before the Sub-Committee.

Major BARNES: There is no scheme at all at present. I should have thought that in this meeting the difficulty would have been to keep the men down, but the difficulty seems rather to be to get them to get up.

The CHAIRMAN: Architects are very modest, Major Barnes.

MR. BUTLER: We must, I think, get rid of modesty to a large extent. I did not want to inflict my views on the meeting, but I think the time has come when the question of absorption or amalgamation should be finally considered. I do not think we ought to look back at all: it is a mistake to look back on what has gone: that is past. We do not know what the future holds for us: but we have the present, and, personally, I see very great difficulty in regard to the absorption of all other existing bodies into one institution or organization—presumably the Royal Institute of British Architects. I am so afraid of opening up matters with which some of us are acquainted in years gone by, and which would be very unpleasant if brought up again, and we hope they will be relegated to the limbo of forgotten things. My solution of the whole problem is a federation of the existing bodies. In fact, I favour constituting this Committee as an Architects' Federation. We have an example on the other side of the water, in France, where, on the 20th of February this year, the Rules for the Federation of French Architects were drawn up, in which the existing bodies—there are half a dozen of them, and I have the papers here which I shall be pleased to hand over to the Executive—those bodies were federated on simple and broad lines, which Rules have been adopted by those bodies, and therefore they have the approval of the whole profession. I feel that, if we are federated on simple and broad lines, we shall not soon have many unattached architects. My idea of federation is that it should be inclusive of all architectural bodies, that any members of those different bodies would be not only members of them, but members of the Federation—that is to say, they would be Federated Architects. Each member of this Institute

would be a member of the Federation, and each member of the Liverpool Society would be a member of the Federation, and so on. And when an architect who wants assistance comes before the Federation Council—to fight a case, for instance—he would receive it not because he was a member of the Liverpool Society, but because he was a member of the Architects' Federation. That is my view: it should be for defence, for the decision as to fees, and all sorts of things which we have been struggling about for a long time, including troubles with Departments—I need not name them. If we could work together in this way we should carry much greater weight; it would not be throwing a single brick by one architect, but it would be the capacity to throw a block of bricks. That is very crudely put, but I wish to affirm my opinion, which is very well-known by readers of architectural and other papers, that we should take into serious consideration this proposal which I have suggested for an Architects' Federation. In my view it would not stop at architects. You mentioned registration just now, sir, and it would be one of the objects of the Federation to deal with that. At the present time, if we go to Parliament, they say, "There are two bodies, at least: settle your own differences first, then come to us." We should be doing that under this suggestion, and I think there would be a joint Bill, for there are other bodies marching in the same direction: engineers, surveyors, auctioneers, and we should go to them and adjust matters generally, and arrange for all the professions to go together with separate Bills, but Bills which are agreed to by the separate parties, so that Parliament will not be able to say the engineers won't have this and the architects won't have that. We want to show them what we will each have, and then the Bills will have every chance of success. There is another point in regard to this architectural profession. We are brought, indirectly, into contact with many things connected with buildings, and there are certain parties trying to get hold of the professions, and I want to say we need to be banded together, not only for our professional protection, but also for other reasons which will occur to gentlemen who take a wide view on this subject, and I hope this suggestion for an Architects' Federation on broad lines will be considered by this Committee to-day. (Applause.)

MR. YERBURY: I did not want to trouble you again, but I would like to say I feel the best thing would be scheme "A," that we should make the best effort to include every architect within the R.I.B.A.: we ought to take in every architect in the profession, and put him under one cover. (Hear, hear.) We should then be all fighting for one thing, and that one thing should be the future of the architect and of architecture. And I think the reason we have not enthusiasm amongst architects is that we have no propaganda work. In every profession which is open and is going to be closed the present generation must be willing to make the sacrifices. We shall have to face it in the same way as the auctioneers, the lawyers, and the accountants have done, and some of you will, in the meantime, have to put up with sacrifices. And all you can say is, that what you are doing to-day is for the benefit of your children and your children's children, and for the benefit of the community, and for the infinite advantage of civic architecture in this country and that it shall stand in its proper position as a leader in the Arts. But if we approach it from the merely business standpoint and say if we are federated we shall be able to get so much more in fees, or we shall then be able to go to the Government and say "You shall not appoint an official architect because you shall not be in competition with us," then we shall be talking and working for our own personal view, and at the present time we may as well give up the idea, because we are wasting our time.

SIR BANISTER FLETCHER: You have been good enough to nominate me on this Committee, and I did not know what you were going to discuss to-day, or that you were going to discuss this question of what you will ask the Sub-

Committee to do. I feel that what the last speaker said lies at the root of the whole matter. Here we have an old Institute, which has been in existence a hundred years, which has been the recognized head of this profession, and all that time has been doing good work for architects and architecture. And it seems to me that the only thing to do is to let it remain in that very strong position, but add to it such strength as we may find it is necessary to add to keep it so and bring it up to date. It seems to me we are the basis of this Federation which is talked about. I think it may be truly said—I speak under correction—that every architect of note in this country, with the exception of those who belong to the Society of Architects who are also of note, belongs to this Institute or to one of its Allied Societies. I would go to any length to get outsiders: I would elect them as Fellows, or as Super-Fellows, to get them into this Institute. I would take in the whole body of the Society of Architects, lock, stock, and barrel, because I do not think the idea of federation is a workable one, because directly you have federation you must have an expensive staff, and we should have to pay others to do the work which we are capable of doing. I feel that, unless we can get the Institute so to arrange this business that it shall still be the representative body of this profession, I can almost say, now and here, that unless we do that, I shall not be able to sign this Report. I feel that that is so important as the basis of the whole thing that I am prepared to give everything that the outside architect wants, in order to get him into the Institute, to make him one of us, so that we can speak, not as we do now, with several mouths, but with one united voice, when anything comes forward which affects the architects of this country or architecture. (Applause.)

Mr. SADEROVE: I shall not be like the last speaker, who seems to have made up his mind before he has heard what the other fellow has to say. Although I have my own view in regard to many matters in connection with the profession, like lack of unity in the past, I shall not say whether "A" or "B" would be the better, because I believe in thoroughly thrashing both of them out, and then submitting them to the General Committee, so that we may hear which is the better of the two. Let us have both schemes. I shall not start with making up my mind. With regard to the Federation side of the matter being supposed to be impracticable, I shall not say it would be unworkable. I do not know that it would not be a very good thing. If the idea is to get every man who has a vested interest in architecture into the membership of the Institute or some other society that is a very good scheme; but there are a large number of men who practise architecture who belong to other professions—who belong to the Surveyors' Institution, for instance—and there are members who belong to the auctioneers' profession, who are sanitary engineers, and the like. I am not sure that it would be the best thing altogether to have members of that class as Institute men or as Society of Architects men. But I see no reason why those men should not be allowed to continue their practice under a fixed set of conditions, which could be arrived at by a Federation or a central body—I use the word for convenience. But there are many vital matters which the central control body should control, which should be something more than an architects' body. For instance, let us take one thing: the National Building Code. We had an illustration the other day of a little unfortunate position on which we should have been unified. The Federation of Builders are proposing a National Building Code. Some of us have folded our arms and turned our backs on it and said "We will have none of it." But there are some good points in it, and if this Institute and the Society of Architects could have seen eye to eye with these builders it would have been a better thing than what has actually happened. We of the Society did not think it was wise to turn our backs upon it, and so we went to see them, and our first interview resulted

in the question, "Are you not going into this with the Institute?" "Yes." "Why didn't you tell us so? Let us abandon this preliminary meeting and let us all discuss it." That is the proper thing to do. Architects may agree a Code with the builders, but what about the Surveyors' Institution? What about the engineers and the municipal authorities? They have all got a finger in the pie, and you cannot rope all these people in under your Architectural Institute. But you could have them represented in a Federation, and you could have a very powerful Federation, equal to a powerful Parliament, and you could have a united voice on such things as town-planning, public competitions, documents which are issued to the profession, all housing requirements, war memorials—and, I will pause on the word "memorial," to say we have heard of one suggested, and I think the architect should have something to say about it before anything is done with regard to that building which it is proposed to erect somewhere in the neighbourhood of Hyde Park Corner. There are also such things as conferences with Government Departments. And then we have to tackle the multiple traders, butchers, and so on, who are coming into the work of architects. I could go on for some little while on that, but I only want to speak briefly on the salient points which I think are so important in the matter of unity. So I would deal with the matter, not from the point of view of architects alone, but for other professional societies. No doubt the Sub-Committee will consider whether an architectural body, as such, can do that better than a Federation which has representatives on it of all the various institutions which have a vested interest in architecture. We shall consider all those things on the Sub-Committee, and the reports which will come up as a result will be threshed out in detail. I am sure you will have something to read when you get that report.

Mr. EVANS: One speaker said it is a good thing to be getting on with the business. We have heard a plea for fusion or absorption and a word for federation. As representing the body of assistants in this country, I may say I have no mandate: I come here simply with instructions to watch. I daresay the representatives of Allied Societies have come to watch also, and if the question is put to this General Committee whether they are in favour of absorption they might vote one way or the other on it. But the principal number on the Sub-Committee might vote the other way. But the question is, are those people who vote representing by it those they are sent from? It seems to me that when this Sub-Committee sits it should first of all obtain from their constituents what it is they are in favour of, and then the Committee would know what scheme to proceed with. But are we representing the voice and the views of the whole profession?

Mr. LAWRENCE: The next point is how the proposals are to be considered by the Allied Societies. I have been a member of an Allied Society eleven years and a member of the Institute for nearly that time, and it has been for a long time clear to me that the interests of the Allied Societies and the interests of the people in London are not always the same. But I had better put it in this way: that you in London are not always aware of all the conditions we have to deal with in the provinces. On your Sub-Committee you have twenty Allied Societies represented, and you have various London associations. The Allied Societies have one representative. I hope, when the Sub-Committee meets, that representative will not allow our interests to be overlooked, because many of us are a long way from London. I have been a member, one way or another, for nearly thirty years, and I have been here once. We have a point of view in the provinces, and I hope that when this matter is discussed that point of view will be brought forward with all the respect it can be. I do not see how it would be possible for you in London to absorb, as an Institute, all people, and how it will properly and clearly legislate for the provinces. But I hope that when the Sub-Committee



has met, and the thing has been considered, some way out will be found. On behalf of my Society, I can say we are only anxious for the interests of the profession as a whole.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to say again what I fear I have not made clear. It is that, whatever instruction is given to the Sub-Committee, the Sub-Committee will send their proposals and suggestions to every member of this Committee for their consideration. That means that it will go to every Allied Society, and that their representatives will have thereby the opportunity of consulting their own bodies and obtaining their views upon it. (Hear, hear.) So, until that has been done, it is quite certain that this Committee will not come to any definite decision. All that we can hope to do to-day—it may not be possible to do even that: it rests with you—is to give the Sub-Committee something to start work upon, and perhaps we could get as far as giving them an indication on whether scheme "A" or scheme "B" is preferred by us, or whether the meeting feels it would like to have a draft scheme on both lines. No speaker yet has suggested a third proposal, but there may be a third suggestion which may be better than either of the other two which I have put forward. But nothing will be pushed through, because the one thing essential, if we are to have unification and be a really united body, is that we should be unanimous.

Mr. JONES: If you put Schemes "A" and "B" before the meeting this afternoon, the Allied representatives could not vote upon it, because they must first take the matter into consideration with their constituents and get their vote upon it. Therefore I think the Sub-Committee should have full powers to bring one or more schemes before the Committee for consideration, first notifying the various bodies before that Committee meeting is held.

Mr. REES: Should the Committee gather what has been done by other societies, and take evidence?

The CHAIRMAN: It will be the duty of the Sub-Committee to inquire.

Mr. REES: I propose that we do not make any proposition so as to prevent that; but that they gather this information and circulate it to the Allied Societies, and that the various Presidents of those Societies discuss it and take a vote, and then we shall be able to come with definite and precise instructions to this Committee to prepare a scheme, not two or three schemes. That should be placed before the whole of the Allied Societies first, the Society of Architects and outside architects, and after that we should come here again and discuss it on that evidence, having taken the opinion of our various societies, and we should give them definite instructions when we know what we are talking about. I may now be in favour of "A," but when we have the information from this Sub-Committee I may be in favour of "B," or of "C," and I shall have the backing of my Council to come here and support "B" or "C." And my friend Mr. Jones and my Bristol friend will have the same feeling, that we should like to have evidence to put before our Allied Societies. Then when we come back to this meeting we can give your Sub-Committee definite instructions to your chosen men to prepare a scheme on those lines.

Mr. JONES: If that is done, should there be a narrow majority for one or other scheme, that would not give satisfaction.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes; instead of our meeting here and arguing and discussing the whole policy, we should be meeting with definite instructions to impart which we have received from our constituents, and then it would be very difficult to come by mutual discussion to any kind of terms or to give way to secure a decision. That is the practical difficulty which I see in the suggestion. I think the suggestion of Mr. Jones was the more practical one, namely, that the Sub-Committee should draft a scheme on the general lines of what we have called "A," and which Mr. McArthur Butler calls "Absorption," as against Federation: that we should have a scheme on both, and then we

should have some definite lines on which to consider the matter with the Allied Societies.

Mr. PERKS: I move: "That it be referred to the Sub-Committee to consider and submit schemes to the Grand Committee for the purpose of unification." That leaves the Sub-Committee free to bring forward as many schemes as they like.

The CHAIRMAN: That is pushing responsibility which belongs to this meeting on to the shoulders of the Sub-Committee. We ought to give them some indication of what we want of them, otherwise they will be in the air.

Mr. PERKS: It simply authorises them to submit as many schemes as they like, after inquiry. I do not ask the Sub-Committee to suggest a scheme: all I ask is that they will consider and submit schemes, which they can draft out, with the advantages and disadvantages; then we can have all the facts before us to vote upon.

The CHAIRMAN: Has Mr. Perks a seconder?

Mr. JONES: I have pleasure in seconding that.

Major BARNES: As an amendment, in order to bring the meeting to some decision, I propose "That the Committee be asked to draft schemes on lines of 'A' and 'B.'" And I would like to submit to the meeting that there is nothing really outside those lines.

Mr. PERKS: Probably you are right.

Major BARNES: I think there is nothing outside that. We are here representing separate bodies considering the question of unification, and we have got alternatives. We must either unify in an existing body, which is "A," or we must unify in a new body, which is "B." That is the first conclusion we have to come to. If we decide "A," that involves a selection of the existing body which we will unify with. If we decide on "B," that will involve the constitution of the new body. If we decide on "A," then the problem would be comparatively simple, we should be absorbed, or amalgamated, or whatever term you like to use for it. If we decided on "B," we should have alternatives, not on federation but on the method of federating. For instance, if we decide on federation, each body will have to decide whether it is going to vest all its functions in the new body, or whether it would vest some of its functions and retain the remainder. But they would not be alternatives as between "A" and "B." So I suggest there is no "C," and that if we ask the Committee definitely to consider and draft schemes "A" and "B," we are not really putting any arbitrary limit upon them, but we are putting a definite proposition, and the solution of that, in so far as it commended itself to the Grand Committee, would bring us to one thing or the other, going on or not proceeding. And therefore, as I am sure all of us desire to reap the advantages of unification—we believe there are advantages, and, speaking for myself, I am very much in the same condition as other members, I am not clear as to the exact extent of the advantages—in that direction the Sub-Committee will be extremely helpful in making that clear to all members of the Committee and to all their constituents. I beg to move that we refer to this Sub-Committee the business of framing and drafting and then reporting to the Grand Committee schemes carrying out the proposals "A" and "B."

Major CORLETTE: I would say a word or two in seconding the resolution of Major Barnes. It is a question of the manner and method under which we shall either unify ourselves or federate ourselves. I am sure Major Barnes has in his mind the federation principles of the United States compared with those of Canada, and again, compared with those of Australia. They are all different in certain elements. We have very little before us by way of alternative to either union in some form or federation in some form. But, speaking as a representative of the Commonwealth of Australia here, I suggest that, whether we have union or federation, we ought to provide for some form of decentralisation—(hear, hear)—because not only Australia, but other Dominions, have their own local Societies, and

they are allied to this Institute. And I am sure I am right in saying that they have the greatest respect for the functions of this Institute, for its prestige, and would like to support it in every way. But let us, in any scheme, whether of union or federation, provide for devolution in some form, so that, although there may be a central authority, we should not centralise all the authority and take all the responsibility from those at the circumference. One speaker referred to the federation among French architects. I do not know under what principle it takes place, but it is interesting to hear of federation in France because I understand the French have always thought in the direction of centralisation. But it might be interesting to the Sub-Committee to have more facts put before them on the question of federation as it has taken place in France. I suggest we do not attempt to copy the French or France too much: we are English, and we have certain principles for which we stand before the rest of the world. We are a little inclined to disparage our own powers and abilities, but there is still a good deal of ability and originality in the old country.

Mr. TAYLOR: I have much pleasure in supporting the resolution moved by Major Barnes, which has already been seconded. I think by instructing the Sub-Committee to obtain evidence and get particulars from every representative we shall be enabled eventually to prepare a scheme which will be satisfactory to the whole of the profession. Moreover, by considering "A" and "B" we shall be able to decide whether "A" is the better or whether "B" is the better. Absorption, to my mind, has certain disadvantages, and those disadvantages will be brought forward by the members of the Sub-Committee, as will also the advantages which may accrue to the whole profession. With regard to "B," which at the moment seems to me to be the best—I am not biased in any way, I have an open mind on the question—if the Committee are able to show that there are loopholes in "B" which may decide this Committee in favour of "A," I shall be pleased, if my constituents are of that opinion, to fall into line: in that way we shall arrive at a conclusion which is bound to be satisfactory. The two suggestions "A" and "B" seem to me to give a free hand to the Sub-Committee as to their report. They will report upon both schemes, or suggestions, and I think nothing but good could come from it and that when we meet again we shall be in a position to decide one way or the other.

Mr. WELCH: On reflection and consideration of all that has been said, I feel, as Major Barnes does, that it is either "A" or "B," and I think a course totally outside that is quite out of the question. Therefore, before we part I would like to ask this: that those members who form the Unification Committee but who do not form the Sub-Committee which has been elected out of this body, will not go away from this room feeling that they have done all that they should do until the Sub-Committee's report comes up. I ask them heartily for all the help they can give us in the meantime, because it is only by help which they can give us, through the post or otherwise, from time to time, as we are labouring, that we can bring out the best to our full satisfaction.

Mr. OLBRIEVE: In supporting Major Barnes's proposition I would like to say that those of us who live a long way from London and are anxious not to come up very frequently, would like, if possible, to know if there cannot be some kind of sub-section work in relation to this great question. Few of us hope we shall be able to get very much forward to-day; it is impossible to expect to do more than set the ball rolling, and I think when we reflect that we had this question under discussion thirty years ago there will be no wonder that we can afford to wait a little longer, and if we can get something done in two or three years we ought to feel satisfied, and those who are not immediately at work on this should trust the Sub-Committee and not expect too much from them. Let us, as has been suggested, do all we possibly can to help. But my object was to suggest that the question might be referred to sub-sections presently,

so that widely separated members might be employed upon some sectional work. For instance, there are four separate aspects of the question. What is being done in the matter of unification by other professions? We must remember that the accountants and others have all had the same battles to fight years ago, and one section might ascertain how they went to work successfully. And affairs in other countries might be investigated, for other countries have had the same thing to do in regard to this. Another section might work on Parliamentary procedure, so that we may not repeat the blunders which others have made in the past when it was a matter of having a definite Statute. Then the question of qualification might be taken up. It is such a pity, when you have a great meeting like this representing the whole profession, that we should waste our breath too much on cross-questioning and mere talk to no purpose. Therefore, I ask that the Committee should take up the question of sectional work, so that those from a distance may have their time saved.

Mr. PERKS: I move That the question be now put. With the consent of my seconder, I withdraw my resolution; I do not know that there is any third course.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Perks having withdrawn his resolution, which was practically the same as Major Barnes's, only for some difference in definition, it has been moved by Major Barnes, and seconded by Major Collette, that it be an instruction to the Sub-Committee that the Sub-Committee draft and submit to the Grand Committee alternative proposals for unification based respectively on absorption and federation. I put that to the Committee. *[The motion was carried unanimously.]*

The CHAIRMAN: Having set up our working body, and having given them a working instruction, it seems to me the useful business for the day is completed.

Mr. PERKS: I would like to propose a vote of thanks to our Chairman, who is our President. It is the first meeting held, and the Sub-Committee will get to work. It may be some time before we have another meeting. *[Carried by acclamation.]*

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, gentlemen. It has been a great pleasure to me to come here to-day and to feel we are on the working lines, and I do not think we shall meet again without having something practical to submit to you.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### "Professional Conduct and Practice."

*Oriel Chambers, Doncaster: 16th August, 1920.*

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR—With reference to the very excellent Code published in your last issue I think it will be generally conceded that "honourable" architects (a term which doubtless includes all members of the R.I.B.A. and many other members of the profession) are in the habit of conducting their practices in accordance with the spirit of the rules laid down.

It is well to have these ruling principles reduced to concrete terms, but is it not still more desirable that they should be instilled into the minds and consciences (if any) of those who most need them? I refer, Sir, to the large body of men who, without qualification or professional training, are now practising as architects.

One constantly hears of instances of such men breaking almost every rule of professional conduct and etiquette, yet these persons are regarded by the general public as being legitimate members of the profession and are even admired for their "progressive" business methods.

Shortly, I presume, when unification comes about, these persons will have to be formally admitted into and recognised by the profession. I would suggest therefore that their education should be commenced *now*. At the same time, could not something be done, through the lay press or otherwise, to enlighten the general public on matters appertaining to the status of the profession and so remove some portion of the blank ignorance that exists?

The trouble in these matters is that "Codes" and "Rules of Conduct" do not reach the people who most need information or reformation.—Yours faithfully,  
MORRIS THOMPSON [A.].

#### Clerks of Works' Salaries.

*Incorporated Clerks of Works Association.  
Carpenters' Hall, London Wall, E.C.2.  
28th July, 1920.*

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A. :—

DEAR SIR.—Many architects, at the present time, do not appear to realise the great increase in the cost of living and rise in operatives' wages, for in some instances salaries are offered to Clerks of Works which are not much higher than the salaries paid prior to the war. Appreciating the good understanding which has always existed between architects and clerks of works, this Association appeals to architects to assist in remedying this unsatisfactory state of affairs. With that object they have formulated the enclosed Circular, copies of which have been sent to local authorities throughout the kingdom with gratifying results.

Before the war a clerk of works' salary was usually twice that of a skilled operative—*i.e.*, when wages were 10½*d.* an hour for a 50-hour week, equal to £2 3*s.* 9*d.*, the clerk of works received 4. 4½, and 5 guineas. Under the scale suggested in the Circular his pay would be as follows :—

Skilled operative's pay of 2 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> per hour for 44-hour week .. ..	£5	2	8
66⅔ per cent. increase .. ..	3	8	5
Total .. ..	8	11	1
	(say 8 guineas)		

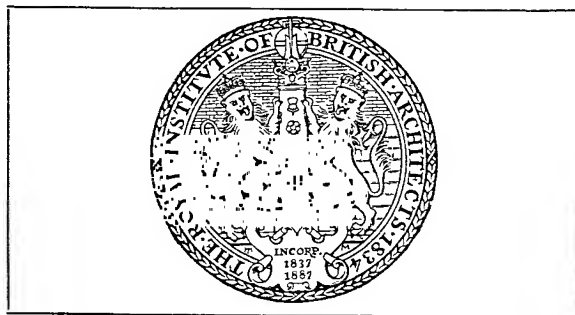
It will be seen that, although operatives' wages have increased about 150 per cent., clerks of works are asking for 66⅔ per cent. increase only.

The Association is desirous that this matter be brought to the notice of all members of the R.I.B.A., and would be grateful if you would kindly give space to this letter and the Circular in the next issue of the JOURNAL.—Yours faithfully,

C. W. DENNY, *Secretary*,  
*Incorporated Clerks of Works Association.*

The circular referred to sets out the following resolution, carried unanimously at a General Meeting held at Carpenters' Hall on 5th July, 1920 :

"That this Association is of opinion that the minimum salary for clerks of works should be 66⅔ per cent. increase on the local rates for skilled operatives per week, and requests members to base the salary asked for on these minima when making application for appointments."



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 28th August 1920.

#### CHRONICLE.

##### The President.

The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, has left England for Cairo on a mission for the Egyptian Government in connection with the Quasr-el-Aini Hospital.

##### Belgian Honours for a Past President of the Institute.

The King of the Belgians has bestowed upon Mr. Ernest Newton, O.B.E., R.A., Past President R.I.B.A., the Cross of Officer of the Order of the Crown. The Belgian Ambassador, in forwarding the insignia, stated that the Foreign Office had communicated to the Embassy his Majesty King George's permission to Mr. Newton to accept and wear the decoration on certain specific occasions. Mr. Newton, it will be remembered, had scarcely been installed in the Presidential Chair when the Great War broke out and he had to contend with the unprecedented difficulties and anxieties that beset the President of the Institute at that trying time. Amid the stress of it all he lost no opportunity of showing in the most generous form his sympathies with the numerous Belgian architects who had sought asylum in this country from the terrors of the German visitation. His own personal hospitalities and benefactions were freely bestowed upon the refugees. Such opportunities as his official position afforded were utilised to the utmost on their behalf, and he was unsparing of himself in his exertions for the amelioration of their hard fate. Gratifying testimony to the success of his efforts will be found in the letter addressed to the Institute from the President and Vice-Presidents of the East Flanders Society of Architects [JOURNAL for March, 1919], where it is stated that it was thanks to the R.I.B.A. that the greater number of their expatriated brethren were able to live in comfort and dignity. Mr. Newton will have the sincere congratulations of the profession upon the honours which have come to him.

##### Architectural Scholarships for Ex-Service Students.

The Council have formulated a scheme for providing a considerable number of Studentships for the benefit of ex-Service students who are taking courses at the various "Recognised" Schools of Architecture. These Studentships, which will be of the value of £50

a year for three or more years, will be awarded, on the recommendation of the School authorities, to students who are now completing their first-year course. In the case of students who are taking the ordinary three years course for exemption from the R.I.B.A. Intermediate Examination, the Studentships will be tenable for the remainder of the course. In the case of students who are taking a five-year Diploma Course, the tenure of the Studentships will be extended to cover the whole period. Certain conditions as to travelling for the purpose of study will be laid down. The Studentships will be termed "Henry Jarvis Travelling Studentships," and have been allocated as follows:—

To the *Architectural Association*, 3 Studentships of £50 a year each for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *Liverpool University School of Architecture*, 2 Studentships of £50 a year each for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *University of London School of Architecture*, 2 Studentships of £50 a year each for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *Manchester University School of Architecture*, 1 Studentship of £50 a year for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *Glasgow School of Architecture*, 1 Studentship of £50 a year for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *Edinburgh College of Art and Heriot Watt College*, 1 Studentship of £50 a year for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *Leeds School of Art*, 1 Studentship of £50 a year for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *Robert Gordon Technical College, Aberdeen*, 1 Studentship of £50 a year for from 3 to 5 years.

To the *Technical College, Cardiff*, 1 Studentship of £50 a year for from 3 to 5 years.

#### Increase in Value of Henry Jarvis Studentships.

In view of the increase in the cost of maintenance and travel since the War the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects have decided to make the following increases in the value of R.I.B.A. Studentships:—

*The Henry Jarvis Travelling Studentship* tenable at the British School at Rome, increased from £200 a year for two years to £250 a year for two years.

*The Henry Jarvis Travelling Studentship* tenable at the Architectural Association (London), increased from £40 to £50.

#### Council Appointments to Standing Committees.

The Council have made the following appointments to the four Standing Committees in accordance with Bye-Law 51:—

ART.—Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A. [F], Mr. H. V. Lanchester [F], Mr. J. D. Coleridge [F], Mr. Alfred Cox [F], Mr. F. R. Horns [A].

LITERATURE.—Major Harry Barnes, M.P. [F], Mr. Theodore Fyfe [F], Mr. T. S. Attlee [A], Miss Ethel Charles [A], Mr. C. E. Sayer [A].

PRACTICE.—Mr. Arthur Keen [F], Mr. G. Topham Forrest [F], Mr. Delissa Joseph [F], Mr. Herbert A. Satchell [F], Mr. Herbert A. Welch [A].

SCIENCE.—Sir Charles Ruthven, O.B.E. [F], Mr. Arthur Ashbridge [F], Mr. R. Stephen Ayling [F], Mr. Felix Clay [F], Mr. W. E. Riley [F], Mr. R. J. Angel, M.I.C.E. [A], Mr. Michael Waterhouse [A], Mr. Charles Woodward [A].

#### Labour for Building: Government Proposals under Discussion.

The following have been made public as the Government proposals for a national agreement in relation to the housing scheme:—

##### A. PROPOSALS FOR INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF LABOUR.

###### (1) *Grading up of Unskilled Men.*

Building labourers to be trained as bricklayers, slaters, tilers, plasterers, etc., for six months, working side by side with skilled operatives. To be classed as "learners," paid labourers' rates for three months, an intermediate rate for another three months, and then tradesmen's rates.

###### (2) *Apprentices.*

The flow of apprentices to the trade to be resumed at the earliest possible moment, and not only youths to be accepted, but older men who have some knowledge of the industry, the latter to serve a somewhat shorter term than was customary in the case of youths indentured in the pre-war period. This term should be two years, and the men should be paid at labourers' rate for one year and an intermediate rate between labourers and tradesmen during the second year. The ordinary youth apprentice would come under the customary trade conditions.

###### (3) *Training of New Men.*

Ex-Service men between the ages of 22 to 26 (inclusive) to be admitted to the trade and to go through a course of training. Trainees to be drafted on to housing sites after a short preliminary training, and their final course of instruction to be completed on the actual erection of houses. Trainees to be paid the present training allowances paid to disabled men under the scheme of the Ministry of Labour, and instructors to be paid the salaries customary in Ministry of Labour training centres.

In the case of carpenters, joiners and plumbers, trainees would require a longer period of training—not less than nine months. At the same time these men are to be utilised for rough carpentry and the manufacture of joinery for housing schemes during the latter period of training.

Generally the proportion of learners, apprentices and trainees to skilled men should be one semi-skilled man (learner, apprentice or trainee) to two skilled men, though such a high proportion might not be found possible in the erection of cottages.

###### (4) *Unemployment Insurance.*

The magnitude of the housing scheme and the enormous arrears of other building which have to be made good result in very great demands for building labour which will continue for many years. In addition, it is to be remembered that building operatives will be insured against unemployment under the Government scheme, and that under the new Act they can make supplementary provision from trade union funds.

##### B. PROPOSALS FOR INCREASING OUTPUT.

###### (1) *Guaranteed Work.*

It is proposed that a guaranteed week should be granted for operatives engaged in building houses; this guaranteed week should be in accordance with the following main principles:—

(a) The offer of a "guaranteed week" means that the men shall not lose their entire wages during loss of time caused by bad weather, but that they shall be paid in accordance with the following principles:—

(b) The building trade shall permit a nine hours' day and a fifty hours' week in the summer, and a seven hours' day and a thirty-nine hours' week in winter in the case of building operatives engaged on housing.

(c) The guaranteed week shall consist of thirty-five hours in the summer, and twenty-six in the winter at full rates. The rest of the terms at half rates.

(d) The men must remain in attendance on the job

throughout the week and only leave work when rung off by the proper authority, and shall return to work when rung on by the same authority.

(e) Overtime within the limit of fifty hours per week in summer cannot be recognised. This is justified by the shortness of winter hours.

(f) Normal conditions of service to be applicable otherwise.

#### (ii) *Stoppage and Strikes.*

There shall be no stoppage or strikes in housing work, matters of dispute to be dealt with by Conciliation Boards in the ordinary way, and, as a last resort, by the Industrial Court. "Site stewards" to act through their union.

#### (iii) *Overtime.*

Members of unions should be allowed to work overtime on housing (when required) at the rates current in the district.

#### (iv) *Payment by Results.*

It is proposed that a system of payment by results which would permit the men to earn substantially higher wages than those yielded by ordinary rates should be adopted. The system must be subject to the following safeguards:—

(a) The men to be consulted in fixing the prices of a particular piece of work.

(b) No cutting of prices after they have been fixed.

(c) Each man to have a guarantee of a minimum wage for an hour's work of a certain output.

The Trade Unions are invited to make specific proposals for giving effect to a system of this kind.

It must be understood that these proposals stand as a whole, and that the offer of a guaranteed week is contingent on the acceptance of the other conditions.

The above proposals were discussed at a conference between the Cabinet Committee and the Resettlement Committee of the Joint Industrial Council of the Building Trades which took place at the Board of Trade offices last week.

The Resettlement Committee agreed that certain sections of the industry require immediate augmentation, and stated that they were alive to the need for an increased output and were prepared to do everything possible to attain that end, but they were not prepared to accept the methods of augmentation suggested by the Government, and they definitely rejected the proposals for a system of payment by results and for up-grading. They made counter-proposals for augmenting the supply of labour by the introduction of adult apprentices. They accepted in principle the Cabinet proposals in regard to overtime, subject to adequate safeguards. They made suggestions in regard to the distribution of contracts, and pledged the industry to support the Government in preventing unfair competition through the offer of special inducements designed to attract building labour to the detriment of housing schemes. The Resettlement Committee are considering proposals for indemnifying operatives against loss of time through stress of weather, and pending the adoption of those proposals they agreed that the Government might at once guarantee such indemnification on housing schemes.

#### **Stoppage of Building.**

Mr. Arthur Keen, Hon. Sec. R.I.B.A., replying in *The Architects' Journal* to a question raised by a correspondent as to what is being done by the R.I.B.A. with regard to the Government restrictions on building, says:—

"The Council have requested the Building Industries Consultative Board, which includes representatives of the

architects, the surveyors, the contractors, and the operatives, to deal with this matter. The Board have, as a first step, approached the County Council, to whom they are about to send a deputation.

"The Council have also appointed a Stoppage of Building Committee for the purpose of organising the meeting of protest desired by the General Body. This committee has approached the other societies and interests affected, and has invited them to take joint action with a view to a public protest. It has also initiated an enquiry into the actual working of the Government restrictions, so that it may be in the possession of established facts as a basis for its campaign.

"It is regretted that, so far, very few members have responded to the request, which has appeared in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL and all the professional Press, to furnish the committee with facts and figures bearing on the subject. No action will be effective unless it is fully supported by evidence."

#### **New Housing Legislation.**

A Bill, entitled Ministry of Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, introduced by Dr. Addison, contains the following provisions relating to housing:—

Power is given to a local authority to hire compulsorily houses suitable for the housing of the working classes which have been withheld from occupation for a period of at least three months.

The period during which subsidies may be paid to persons constructing houses is extended for a further twelve months. No further charge on the Exchequer is involved.

The Appeal Tribunal, which hears appeals from orders prohibiting luxury building, is enabled to sit in more than one division, and thus to accelerate the hearing of appeals. The Minister of Health is given power to take action for the purpose of checking luxury building in certain cases which are not covered by the existing law.

There is a clause designed to facilitate the carrying out of housing schemes promoted by a local authority outside its own area. For this purpose, agreements can be made between the local authorities concerned for the execution of works incidental to the scheme and for the consequential financial adjustments.

The provisions of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, are extended for the purpose of assisting county councils in financing the housing schemes of local authorities in their areas.

A general power is given to local authorities, with the approval of the Minister, to provide housing accommodation for their employees.

#### **Ministry of Health : New Chief of Housing Division.**

The Ministry of Health announces that Sir James Carmichael, K.B.E., Director-General of Housing has, for reasons of health, tendered his resignation, which the Minister has accepted with great regret. The Housing Division of the Ministry has been reorganised and placed under the charge of Mr. E. R. Forber, C.B.E., an Assistant Secretary of the Ministry. Mr. Forber will be assisted by Mr. R. B. Cross, O.B.E., Assistant Secretary in charge of the Administrative Branches; Mr. Walker Smith, Director of Housing; and Mr. Stephen Easton, Director of Production.

The work in connection with Town Planning and Unhealthy Areas will be under a separate Assistant Secretary, Mr. I. G. Gibbon, C.B.E., who will

also continue temporarily to be in charge of the special branch which deals with Housing in London.

#### Cottage Building Construction : Reinforced Concrete.

The Ministry of Health have published the following decision, in connection with the National housing schemes, which has been arrived at by the Department's Standardisation and Construction Committee:—"Having in mind the failures which occur in buildings erected in reinforced concrete on account of materials being used which are not properly tested and because the necessary skilled supervision and labour are not available in sufficient quantities for the construction of cottages by this method, we are of opinion that it is undesirable to approve such a system, as, for this class of work, it possesses no advantages over other simpler and more suitable methods."

#### Stone for the Abbey.

An interesting discussion in *The Times* has resulted from a letter from Mr. Somers Clarke (formerly Surveyor to the Fabric of St. Paul's) offering a suggestion on the nature of the stone to be employed in carrying out the repairs at Westminster Abbey.

The Abbey Church (says Mr. Clarke) was built very largely of Reigate stone, at that time the most accessible building stone to London. It is a sandstone by no means of fine quality. But early in the reign of Henry III. what means of transport existed to bring a better material to the site? Good sandstone, it is well known, will stand the trials of a town atmosphere better than limestone. In the case of the Abbey Church more than 300 years ago there were bitter complaints in regard to the terrible destruction from which it was suffering from the depredations of "the coal smoke."

The most recent part of the Abbey Church is Henry VII.'s Chapel, in building which nothing was to be spared to attain perfection. The King directs in his will that "the chapel shall be finished in as good a manner as to a King's work appertaineth"; yet Sir Christopher Wren reports that "it is eaten up by our weather," whilst Dart, whose history of Westminster Abbey was published as far back as 1725, tells us that statues on the exterior were pulled down for fear they should fall on the heads of the passers-by.

With Wren comes in the reign of Portland stone. At that time the north front of the transept was a deplorable ruin. It was encased (and not a bit be changed in its form) with Portland stone.

Speaking generally, may we not call the period of the works referred to as belonging to the beginning of the eighteenth century? The works then executed were of a rather miserable nature. The flying buttresses, so important in maintaining the vaulted roofs, were, many of them, perished to a depth of three or more inches, and this over their whole surface; they were consequently thinner by some eight inches than they should be. These were skinned until a clean, new surface was arrived at; thus their strength and constructive value were seriously diminished. The clerestory walls were similarly treated.

As for the north transept before referred to, the vertical surfaces of this were "flagged," as Mr. Lethaby has related. Many a time during the progress of the recent reconstruction of this façade I have looked down into great chasms five or six feet deep between the crumbling surfaces of the ancient structure and the miserable "flagging" with which it had been disguised. There were severe critics of Mr. Pearson's drastic "restorations" of this façade, but the new work was, at any rate, as sound and solid as possible

In this work Chilmark stone was, I think, made use of, and some of it is already perishing. It is a limestone.

In the year 1864 I entered Sir (Mr.) Gilbert Scott's office as a pupil. He was at that time architect to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and never ceased to encourage his pupils to study at the Abbey Church. From that date I have seen all the works going on at the fabric. I can say, with really intimate knowledge, that one was forced to wonder how such perishing masonry maintained its position.

We now come to the question of the use of Portland stone. This material at the Abbey Church has perished and is now perishing. It is stated that all works of repair are to be executed in Portland stone. May I ask what are its particular merits? Let us inquire how it has justified itself in times past.

We have in St. Paul's Cathedral a very great structure, the exterior entirely of Portland stone. Compared with the Abbey Church, we may almost call St. Paul's a modern building. It was begun in 1675. In 1697 the eastern limb was completed and used. We learn that the walls west of this were, at that time, also carried up to a great height. Very large surfaces were therefore exposed to the weather and London filth. From 1697 to 1920 is 223 years. The masonry of the lantern surmounting the dome was finished in 1719. From that date to this is but 210 years. What a short period this is in the age of a great monument! What is the condition in which we now find this masonry to be? It has perished with great uniformity over its whole surface to a depth of about half an inch. The surfaces of the stonework lower down have perished, but to a slightly lesser degree; wherever we observe the surfaces to be clean and white there the degradation is going on.

Portland stone is full of little fossils. The sulphurous ingredients of the London air do not attack these fossils. By the height which they now stand up above the existing surfaces it is easy to tell what the degradation has been. It is to be feared that the public is under the impression that when it sees Portland stone "nice and white" its admirable qualities are displayed, when in fact it is the gloomy black surfaces that are well preserved.

The evil rests with the public's wasteful indifference and misuse in the burning of coal. . . . Must all we now hope to do in repair begin immediately to perish? Why must we make use of limestone? It is quite well known that sandstones of suitable quality are more resistant than limestones. Let us compare like with like. In the North of England and South of Scotland are towns more horribly smothered in a perpetual night than even London. Let us take Glasgow as an example. Yet I think it will be found that masonry in that city is not so quickly disintegrated as in London. How is the case in Liverpool or Manchester? Is not sand stone made use of?

May the suggestion be made that a small commission of three or four competent men be assembled who shall be instructed to travel around, to see for themselves what may be learnt on this subject, before it is too late?

Professor Lethaby, in *The Times* of the 16th inst., refers to the above letter and says: "We have in the western towers of the Abbey church experiments in the use of Portland stone actually built and nearly 200 years old? Apart from the injury caused by the mistaken use of iron in these structures the stone is generally very well preserved. Portland stone in London decays very slowly, the surface falling away in powder, while below it the stone remains sound. The other stones which have been used seem, on the contrary, to rot to a considerable depth."

I write now to call attention to the general problem of stone preservation in our climate, and especially in large cities. All modern stone buildings should,



I believe, be coated over the surface with a preservative wash as a regular part of building procedure. The custom has been to "clean off the work" at the end, leaving all the pores of the stone open for the agents of decay to begin their action at once, especially at the joints of the masonry, which are often slightly recessed, so that moisture will lodge there. The jointing should be flush and firm, and the whole surface of the stone-work should be covered with a wash of lime tinted to the colour of the stone, or with some application which will stop the absorption of moisture. Only last week a liquid wash was brought to my notice which is practically colourless and seems at first sight to be remarkably successful. I find that people think they would dislike limewashes as being in some way 'improper,' but the use of lime in this way was traditional in the Middle Ages, and it was not at all introduced by churchwardens. For myself, I have come to dislike raw and naked new stonework, as I cannot forget what is happening to it unrestingly."

Mr. Cecil H. Desch (Sheffield University) in *The Times* of the 19th inst. says: "All limestone and such sandstones as have a cementing material containing lime between the grains are attacked by the acid gases which are present in the air of large towns, and this chemical action destroys the stone by dissolving out certain constituents and converting others into friable bulky salts which have little cohesion. It is quite possible to preserve the surface by suitable chemical treatment, and where decay has already set in the remaining porous surface, after removal of dirt and any loosely adherent rotted layer, may be preserved from further action.

"A lime-wash, as mentioned by Mr. Lethaby, closes the pores and checks the absorption of moisture, but it offers no chemical resistance to acid fumes and only delays the onset of decay. Baryta, which forms an insoluble coating, was used on several public buildings under the Office of Works, but it is troublesome to apply on account of its highly corrosive and poisonous properties, and has the further disadvantage of producing an unpleasant white-washed surface. Water glass only affords a slight degree of protection. The best preserving agents are the fluosilicates of certain metals, such as magnesium. These are colourless, soluble, and non-poisonous salts. When a solution of magnesium fluosilicate, for example, is brushed over a porous surface of limestone, a reaction takes place, and three insoluble products are formed—namely, silica and the fluorides of calcium and magnesium. The porosity may be reduced to any desired extent (it is not advisable to render the stone entirely impervious to moisture), and the new surface is quite unaffected by acids. The fluosilicates have been very largely employed on the Continent under the trade name of "Fluates," both for the protection of new and the preservation of old buildings, but they are still little known in this country, although they have been applied with success to several buildings. It is necessary for a chemist to make experiments in each case to

determine the best concentration and mode of application of the protective salt to a given stone. Treatment with such salts has the great advantage of not altering in any way the colour or appearance of the stone to which they are applied. The raw materials for the manufacture of the salts are found abundantly in this country."

Mr. Alan E. Munby [F.I., Chairman of the Science Standing Committee, in *The Times* of the 23rd inst., draws attention to weathering tests on building stones which are being carried out by the Geological Survey authorities. Some ten years ago (he says), as the result of a Paper on the Application of Science to Materials, the Survey authorities approached the R.I.B.A., and a little programme upon the weathering of stones was drawn up by the Science Committee and the geologists. A number of specimens of common building stones placed in suitable frames with regard to aspect have now been exposed on the roof of a building in the heart of London for nearly a decade, and from time to time these specimens have been examined and the deposits formed upon them have been assessed and tested, non-corrodible metal plugs being used to preserve the planes of the original faces. At the close of this year it is hoped to make a final report.

Mr. Munby goes on to say that the somewhat divergent opinions expressed seem to show very forcibly how much the problems of building demand the attention and collaboration of men of science. Many millions might be saved annually by the expenditure of a few thousands of pounds on research. Many of the problems requiring solution were submitted in some detail to the Industrial Research Department by the Science Committee of the R.I.B.A. immediately after this Department was formed. As regards the question of stones, looking at the problem generally the use of preservatives must surely imply the initial employment of material in some measure unsuited to its environment, and in attacking the whole matter we should probe the roots and not begin by treating symptoms, however necessary in specific instances. Probably the physical characters of stone are really more important than chemical composition. For example, Ketton and Bath stone are both oolites, with very similar chemical composition but different physical structures, and the difference in the weathering power of these stones in London is well known.

Mr. J. Allen Howe, Curator of the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn Street, in *The Times* of the 23rd asks why we build with stone—is it for the sake of permanence or for effect, or for both?

"As regards permanence" says Mr. Howe, "the fact must be faced that, though we may wish to build for remote posterity, in this country, with the architectural features we have adopted, we cannot do so. Repairs will be needed in the next generation whenever construction may be undertaken. Our duty with national buildings is to build them as well as we can for the present, and see that funds are provided for their proper maintenance in the near future. If a



long view is taken, it must be realised that stone has to be renewed just as certainly as a coat of paint. It is only a question of degree. When, in the course of time, we secure in our towns an atmosphere less acrid and destructive than that we now suffer, the life of the stones will be prolonged, but not indefinitely: for in the forms that are given to our buildings and the ornaments with which they are embellished we invite local decay.

"In choosing stone as a building material we are actuated by tradition, by sentiment, and by our æsthetic sense. As a matter of fact, we could find other material quite as permanent if this quality were to be the sole criterion. In the choice of a particular stone we are influenced by its qualities, including its appearance, and by its cost; and as often as not cost has the last word.

"Now, Mr. Somers Clarke suggests the employment of sandstone on the ground of its greater durability. We have in this country an abundance of excellent sandstones, but, I would ask, can it be shown that any sandstone used in London has behaved uniformly better than Portland stone especially in those critical portions of the building where moisture exerts its greatest effect? And, further, are we prepared to substitute for the pleasing greys and whites of Portland stone the rather dingy uniformity that in existing circumstances is the final aspect acquired by sandstones in most towns? If a limestone is to be employed, there can be no question as to the suitability of Portland stone, because we know by experience exactly how it will behave; it is the most foolproof of all our softer limestones, and it will be in keeping with its surroundings. What Mr. Clarke says about its 'degradation' is absolutely true, and is in itself the best testimonial that could be given to any limestone.

"We are just now shocked at being reminded of the Abbey's state of decay, so we provide funds that will enable its guardians to replace the decayed stone by new stone that will suffer in the same way as the old. If we dipped a little deeper into our pockets, funds might be raised that would allow of the employment of a stone of much greater durability and not inharmonious in appearance—for example, the granite of Carnsew or Delank. My point is that if greater durability is honestly desired it can be attained by paying the cost.

"As for the 'liquid washes,' some are excellent, but to be really effective their application must be repeated periodically on the most inaccessible parts of the structure: this again means money. Others, also, are excellent in their way, but their use so alters the look of the stone that we might as well employ painted iron from the beginning."

#### The Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

Sir Alfred Mond, First Commissioner of Works, has appointed an Advisory Committee consisting of Lord Beauchamp (Chairman), Lord Feners, Sir Martin Conway, M.P., Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. C. James

M.P., Bishop Browne, Sir Hercules Read, Sir Lionel Earle, and Mr. C. R. Peers, F.S.A. (Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments), with the following terms of reference:—(1) To advise on the question of amending and strengthening the existing Ancient Monuments Act. (2) To consider whether the powers conferred by Parliament should be widened, so as to include advisory powers over ecclesiastical and secular buildings which are still in occupation.

In announcing the above appointment one of the building papers makes the comment, "No architect included!" But Earl Feners, it is of interest to recall, is a trained architect, having served his articles with Mr. Basil Champneys and passed through the A.A. Fourth Year Course. As Walter Knight Shirley, before coming into the title, he practised at 12 Buckingham Street, Strand, and from 1911 to 1914 was a Licentiate of the Institute. Among his works are Hamington Hall, Atford; Holmwood Church, Surrey; St. John's Hospital Chapel, Winchester; the tower of Ettington Church, Warwickshire; 35, Victoria Road and 1, Albert Place, Kensington; Thorpe Lodge, Campden Hill; Newland House, Eynsham; Linton Schools, Oxford.

The Bishop of Rochester has appointed a small committee of experts to give advice to the clergy on structural and artistic questions relating to parish churches. "The urgency of the matter," he says, "lies in this, that the best safeguard against any attempt by the State to gain control over cathedrals and ancient churches will be the manifestation on the part of the Church of England that the care of ancient monuments is in expert hands of the Church's own choosing."

#### St. Sophia, Constantinople

Mr. Sydney Toy gives the following account in *The Times* of the present condition of St. Sophia, Constantinople:—

Desirous of studying the architecture of St. Sophia at Constantinople, and of ascertaining its present condition, I obtained the necessary permission from the Turkish authorities and spent some time during April and May of this year in subjecting that glorious building to as thorough an examination as the lack of scaffolding and authority to remove plaster would permit.

While being profoundly impressed with the great strength of some parts of this church, I am also struck by the extremely dangerous condition of others. The main body of the building is wonderfully well preserved, its principal and subsidiary semi-domes are in good condition, and, although the infilling walls below the great north and south arches are considerably buckled and deflected, and the great arches themselves, particularly that on the west, much distorted, these defects are not immediately menacing. The pavement of the gynæceum, both on the north and south, has sunk considerably in the centre and also near the walls, but here again, having regard to the age and character of the building, and since the vaults of the aisles and gynæceum are in relatively good condition, this in itself is not disquieting. The four great piers supporting the dome, however, are considerably cracked and require immediate attention.

The dome of St. Sophia, considering its great size and the character of its supports, manifests a structural perfection which is probably unsurpassed in any other building. Nothing but the application of such consummate constructive principles has preserved it from failure under the stresses to which it has been subjected and the successive shocks it has sustained. As it is, the dome is distorted and deflected in all directions, and, although this distortion is not immediately alarming throughout its surface, it certainly is so on the north-east. The ponderous weight of the 23 great iron chandeliers depending from the dome cannot but have, in its present state, a sinister influence on its stability.

Apart from the main buttresses, the four pendentives are reinforced by heavy rectangular structures which are quite distinct from the adjoining brickwork and contain stairways. They begin at the level of the haunches of the pendentives, are stopped at the platform on which the dome stands, but were designed to rise considerably above that level. These structures have not been sufficiently strong to resist the thrusts exercised upon them by the dome and pendentives, and at the three corners from which the plaster coating has been removed long fissures in the brickwork are exposed, that on the north-east being a gap varying from 7 inches to 10 inches in width.

It is at this north-east point that the immediate danger to the church lies. The pendentive behind has given way, and a portion of it has been thrust back to the extent of about 2 feet, while the haunch of the dome immediately above has become deflected to an alarming extent, the incrustation having fallen from the extreme projection by way of warning. Moisture also has searched its way through the pendentive. Some attempt has been made to plug the great fissure with brick and stone, but it is obvious that unless reparation of a drastic character is effected at this corner at once the stability of the structure cannot be guaranteed, for, failing here, as it certainly must do at no distant date, the equilibrium would be upset and the dome unquestionably fall.

If this great building, of incomparable beauty and unique historical associations, is to be preserved to posterity, then it is most desirable that some effort be made to induce the proper authorities to undertake its effective repair at once.

#### Intellectual Intercourse between French, British and American Students.

The London Branch of the "Office National des Universités et Ecoles Françaises," which was founded in the summer of 1919 in co-operation with the British and American University organisations of the same type, has, like the head office already existing in Paris, the official recognition and active support of the French Ministry of Public Instruction.

It aims at securing closer intercourse between French, British and American students and teachers, while diffusing a wider knowledge of French intellectual culture of every kind. For this purpose premises have been selected in the heart of London, where a library has been set up for information concerning the Universities and the principal State Schools of France, together with a lecture room, where eminent French scholars visiting London may give lectures, and where French students and teachers may meet their Anglo-

Saxon colleagues. There is also a Secretariat, the duties of which are to supply every information regarding the various Universities, Technical Schools, Commercial and Artistic Establishments of France, in order that English-speaking students and the teachers in charge of their studies may be directed to those towns and establishments that will prove most suitable for the furtherance of their intellectual pursuits.

On the other hand, this office is to remain in close contact with British Universities, in order to direct to the best advantage those students who come over to England for their studies.

This French office has found it beneficial for its action in both these directions to come to an agreement with the offices recently set up in London by the Universities' Bureau of the British Empire and the American University Union in Europe. These three bodies have their joint headquarters in a building belonging to the Universities' Bureau of the British Empire, and situated at 50, Russell Square, W.C.1. [*Tel.*, Museum 5167.] Under this arrangement the lecture room and library are shared by the three organisations so as to increase the opportunities for intercourse between the students and teachers of the three allied associated nations.

The general management of the Office National (finance, &c.) is in the hands of a committee composed of French citizens long established in London, as follows:—

*Two representatives of the teaching of Literature.*—Prof. G. Rudley, Marshal Foch Professor of French Literature at the University of Oxford, President of the Society of French Teachers in England: M. E. Audra, Director of the French Institute of the United Kingdom.

*Two representatives of the Engineering Profession.*—MM. T. J. Gueritte and Slogg, Ingénieurs des Arts et Manufactures.

*Two representatives of the Legal Profession.*—MM. R. Monsarrat and A. Pontremoli, Avocats.

*Two representatives of the Fine Arts.*—M. Jean-Aubry, Member of the Advisory Committee on Artistic Expansion (French Ministry of the Fine Arts), and M. Fernand Billerey, Architect to the French Embassy.

*Two representatives of the Commercial Profession.*—MM. E. Duché and M. Sumet.

*Two representatives of the Press.*—M. Robert L. Cru, London Correspondent of the *Temps*, and M. Bernard Laporte, London Correspondent of the *Matin*.

Professor G. Rudler has been elected President by the Committee.

The London Branch of the "Office National des Universités et Ecoles Françaises" has already done a great deal of useful work by helping British students from this country and the Dominions to go to France, and assisting French students on their arrival in this country, and also in the exchange of teachers and Professors in Universities. Beside the subsidy which it receives from the French Ministry of Public Instruc-

tion, the London Branch of the "Office National" has hitherto derived the main part of its resources from private contributions given by public-spirited members of the French Colony in London.

M. Fernand Billerey, one of the Beaux-Arts representatives on the Committee of the "Office National," writes that the "Direction des Beaux-Arts" in Paris would welcome and assist any intercourse in the teaching of architecture between England and France—and the "Office National" would be pleased to be considered as the "Liaison Office," to render any assistance that may be suggested—in making arrangements, for instance, for students' visits to France with or without reciprocity—exchange of students and of masters, exhibitions of drawings—perhaps even competitions between British and French ateliers.

#### The Anglo-Belgian Union.

The aim of the Anglo-Belgian Union is to further the knowledge of Belgian life in this country through a series of lectures, either in English or in French, by distinguished men and women belonging to both countries. Similar work is being done by the Union in Belgium to develop interest and sympathy for British questions. The Union will supply Societies with a lecture, or course of lectures, on any Belgian or Anglo-Belgian subject that may interest them. King George and King Albert are Patrons of the Union; the President is Count de Roodenbeke; Vice-President, Lord Burnham; Hon. Secs., Vicomte Davignon and Mr. Algernon Maudslay; Hon. Treasurer in England, Sir Cecil Hertslet. During the two years of the Union's existence 175 lectures have been given, among the lecturers being M. Emile Cammaerts, Sir Cecil Hertslet (late H.M. Consul-General for Belgium), Dr. Stewart (Praelector in French Studies, Trinity College, Cambridge), M. Paul Lambotte (Directeur des Beaux-Arts de Belgique), M. Jules Dechamps (University of London), M. Gaston de Leval (Counsellor to the British Legation, Brussels), Mr. Edwin Fagg (Tate Gallery), Mr. Marion H. Spielmann, F.S.A. [*Hon. A.*], Mr. Francis J. Whitgreave. Mr. Robert Bridges and Sir Henry Newbolt have also promised their collaboration. Catalogues of lectures may be obtained from the Secretary, Educational Sub-Committee, Anglo-Belgian Union, 35 Albemarle Street, W.

#### University Readership in Architecture.

The Senate of the University of London have conferred the title of "Reader in Architecture" upon Mr. Stratton, F.S.A. [*F.*]. For some years Mr. Stratton has held the post of Lecturer in the School of Architecture at University College, and his new appointment is tenable at the same college. Mr. Stratton's literary work is well known. His large and comprehensive work on *The English Interior*, which traverses the styles of interior decoration in English homes from Tudor times to the nineteenth century, was recently issued through Messrs. B. T. Batsford. It is some years since he published an interesting monograph on Sir Christopher Wren. Later he completed the monumental work commenced by the late Thomas Garner on *Tudor Architecture in England*, and he edited the latest edition of Anderson's *Architecture of the Renaissance in Italy*.

#### Architectural Atelier at London University.

The *London University Gazette* of the 4th inst. states that at the meeting of the Senate of the University

held on 21st July it was resolved to establish, in connection with the Bartlett School of Architecture at University College, an Atelier for the study of Advanced Architectural Design, and that it will be under the direction of Professor A. E. Richardson [*F.*].

#### Reopening of the New Galleries at the British Museum.

The King Edward VII. Galleries at the British Museum, which have been closed since 1916 owing to the war, have now been reopened to the public. A selection of the works of Old Masters has been made from the main collection and placed in the Galleries, and in addition specimens of modern art, many of which are publicly shown for the first time. Drawings depicting incidents of the war are also exhibited, and there is a selection of engravings, chiefly English (1780-1820), and some Oriental pictures and drawings, including works from the Stein Collection not previously exhibited. The second gallery contains specimens of mediæval glass and china.

#### A Battlefield Pantheon.

It is announced in *The Times* that arrangements are in progress for the erection at Notre Dame de Lorette, in Artois, of a great monument to the Allied dead. According to the plans designed by M. Cordonnier, a member of the Institut de France, a domed basilica, resembling the Pantheon in outward appearance, will have attached to it two wings terminated by small corner towers. In these wings will lie the remains of Allied dead. Approaching by a fine avenue girded by verdant lawns, one will perceive, overtopping the dome, a graceful belfry tower. At the summit of this there will be "a lantern of the dead," the rays of which will be seen miles around from Douai and Lille, no less than from Hazebrouck or Cassel.

#### Union Internationale des Villes: Fifteen-day Congress and Excursions.

The Union Internationale des Villes, whose seat is at Brussels, is holding its Fifteen-Day International Congress at Brussels, from the 5th to the 20th September. A special section is devoted to Town Planning and Municipalism, the meetings to take place from the 13th to the 20th. After the Congress a six-day excursion (21st-26th September) will be made to Holland, visits being paid to The Hague, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Heerlen (mining district), returning by the mining district of Limbourg, (Belgium). This excursion promises to be of extreme interest, for it is claimed that nowhere on the Continent of Europe can be seen such effective architectural schemes as those which have been carried out in Holland in recent years. The cost of the excursion is expected to amount to 100 fr. per day (rate of exchange = 4 fr. to the florin), the Dutch Organising Committee arranging for hotels, meals, and carriages. A series of six lectures on "Some Aspects of Town Planning" will be delivered at the Congress by Professor Patrick Abercrombie [*F.*]. During the Congress visits will be paid to various Belgian towns—Ypres, Ostend, Bruges, Antwerp, Liège, Charleroi, &c., &c. The subscription to the Congress is 25 fr., which entitles members to attend all lectures, meetings, and excursions (travelling and refreshment expenses to be defrayed by the participant). Members intending to join in the excursion to Holland must notify the Secretariat at least a fortnight beforehand. All particulars will be furnished on application to the Director, M. Emile Vinck, 3 bis Rue de la Régence, Brussels (telephone, B. 2687).

## OBITUARY.

Josiah Conder [F.].

Josiah Conder (of Tokyo, Japan), who died on the 21st June, in his 68th year, was elected an Associate of the Institute in 1878, and Fellow in 1884. In 1876 he was awarded the Soam Medallion for a Design of a Country House. Mr. Conder went to Japan in 1876, and the following particulars of his career are culled from the *Japan Gazette* and the *Japan Times and Mail*.

Dr. Josiah Conder was one of the best known and worthy representatives of the architectural profession in Japan. He was educated at Bedford, England, at the Commercial School there (now the Modern School). He later studied architecture at the South Kensington Art Schools and at the Slade Life Classes of the University College, London. After finishing the necessary courses of study, he was attached to the late Professor T. Roger Smith, F.R.I.B.A., in 1868. He shortly after became architectural assistant to the late William Burges and a student of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Dr. Conder entered the Imperial Japanese Government's service in January 1876 as Professor of Architecture in the Engineering College, and Architect to the Public Works Department, becoming the first architectural instructor of those who are now the leading architects of Japan. He designed, and with their assistance carried out, several important public buildings, including two small palaces for Imperial Princes and the first buildings of the present Imperial University.

In 1881 he was appointed Consulting Architect to the Imperial Palace Building Bureau to investigate the matter of foundations and to design a contemplated Imperial Audience Hall and block of offices for the Imperial Household Department, the latter building being carried out.

In 1884 he was attached to the Daiyo Kenan office to investigate matters connected with the building of new public offices on the Hibiya Parade Ground, and after the formation of the Rinzi Kenchiku Kioku served that office and carried out the construction of the new Ministry of Marine, assisting generally upon the construction of other buildings designed abroad. On the Kenchiku Kioku being absorbed by the Naimusho, he joined that Department, with which he remained up to the time of his death; also holding a life pension from the Imperial Government, and the post of Honorary Adviser to the Naimusho.

In April 1886, in addition to his other duties, he was appointed Lecturer in Architecture to the Imperial University, a post which he held, with the exception of a very short period, until the end of 1888.

In 1884 he had conferred upon him the Fourth-class Order of the Rising Sun, and in 1894 received the Third-class Order of the Sacred Treasure and official rank of Honorary Chokunin.

Dr. Conder served on the jury on the selection of Japanese art exhibits for the first American Exhibition held in Chicago, and, together with Mr. Iono Tatsuzo, represented Japanese architects at the World's Fair in Chicago.

Dr. Conder was the first Honorary President of the Society of Japanese Architects, and has been elected as Honorary Member of the Engineering Society of Japan. He also held the title of Emeritus Professor of Architecture from the Tokyo Imperial University.

Among the buildings constructed by Dr. Conder are:

Uyeno Natural Museum; Tokyo University (first blocks of buildings for the Law and Literature Colleges); Palaces of Imperial Princes Arisugawa and Kitashirakawa; Navy Department Office and Residence of the Naval Minister; Official Residences of the Home Minister and Finance Minister; the German Embassy; Austria-Hungarian Embassy; Italian Embassy; private residences of Marquis Matsukata, Baron Iwasaki, Baron Kato, K. Sawada, T. Akaboshi, I. Imamura; the Tokyo Club and the Mitsui villa.

In spite of the heavy demands on his time, caused by the multiplicity of private and public duties, Dr. Conder still found opportunities to write a few books on Japan, and among the best known of these are: *The Floral Art of Japan*; *Landscape Gardening in Japan*; *Notes on Japanese Architecture*; and *Paintings and Studies by Kwanabe Kyosei*.

In 1880, four years after his arrival in Japan, he married Miss Kumeko Mayeba, who died on 10th June 1920. One child, a daughter named Helen Aiko, was born to Dr. and Mrs. Conder. Miss Conder married Commander L. Grut (Swedish Navy, retired) in 1906.

Dr. Conder had three grand-daughters and three grandsons. The boys are at school in Sweden, while the girls were with Dr. Conder in Tokyo.

Kwanabe Kyosei, the well-known Japanese classic artist, found a great patron in Dr. Conder. The latter soon saw the great possibilities latent in the young Japanese artist, and in every possible way aided to develop that talent. In fact, Kyosei was practically unknown until Dr. Conder brought him into the limelight, and after that his rise was rapid. Kyosei had always a very warm sense of gratitude toward Dr. Conder, and one of his favourite sayings was: "An artist should be international, and I am a bit international, thanks to an Englishman who put me on the road to fame."

It is stated that the official announcement of death was delayed because of the wish of the Imperial Government to confer on Dr. Conder posthumous honours because of his long and splendid service to the Government.

Mr. JOHN JOHNSON, of 9, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., whose death is announced, was elected an Associate of the Institute in 1881. He had an extensive practice, his works including several Nonconformist places of worship, schools, and public buildings, most of them won in open competition. Mr. Johnson, who was a rapid sketcher and excellent draughtsman, did some of the architectural drawings for the books of the late Edmund Sharpe. He was elected a member of the Architectural Association in 1863, and was the only member who had attended all the annual A.A. excursions which were held up to the outbreak of the war.

The deaths are also announced of the following:—

RICHARDSON, JAMES, *Licentiate*, elected 1911. Died two years ago.

BLACKBOURN, HENRY, *Associate*, elected 1893.

BURKE, EDMUND, *Licentiate*, elected 1911.

EATON, WILLIAM, *Associate*, elected 1890.

MARTIN, F. W., *Licentiate*, elected 1911. Died July, 1917.

PIERCE, ARTHUR PATRICK HECTOR, *Associate*, elected 1907.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

19th July 1920.

**APPOINTMENT OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES.**—The Council approved the Report of the Selection and General Purposes Committee, and appointed the Committees of Council, the Board of Architectural Education, the special Boards and Committees, and the additional Members of the four Standing Committees for the Session 1920-21.

**CIVIC SURVEY EXHIBITION.**—The Council appointed a Joint Committee for the purpose of organising an exhibition of Civic Survey drawings.

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER REGULATIONS.**—Mr. H. Austen Hall and Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood were reappointed to represent the R.I.B.A. on the Standing Committee on Water Regulations.

**LEGISLATION.**—It was decided to take steps to protect the interests of architects and surveyors in the Government Service under the Government of Ireland Bill (1920) and to safeguard the rights of the public under the Air Navigation Bill.

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## COMPETITIONS.

**Hackney War Memorial.**  
**Earby and Wakefield War Memorial.**

Members and Licentiatees of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above Competitions because the conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

**Liverpool Secondary Schools.**

As a result of correspondence between the Competitions Committee of the R.I.B.A. and the promoters, the conditions of this Competition are now in order, and there is no objection to Members and Licentiatees taking part.

**New Club Premises, Barcelona.**

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiatees to the fact that the conditions of the above Competition are unsatisfactory. The Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiatees are advised to take no part in the Competition.

IAN MACALISTER, Secretary.

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### Architectural Appointment : Straits Settlements.

An assistant is required as soon as possible in the Architect's Office of the Public Works Department, Singapore, Straits Settlements. The salary is 500 dollars per month, rising by annual increments of 25 dollars per month to 600 dollars per month, with prospect of further advancement to 800 dollars per month. (The sterling value of the dollar is at present

fixed by the Government at 2s. 4d.). A temporary war bonus of 10 per cent. is at present payable. If quarters are provided rent will be charged, but no guarantee can be given that quarters will be available. Free passages out and home again on the satisfactory termination of the engagement. The period of engagement is three years, with prospect of a permanency. The selected candidate will be required to pass a strict medical examination, and be vaccinated if necessary. Address, The Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

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## CIRCULAR LETTER TO LICENTIATES.

**General Meeting of Licentiatees R.I.B.A.**

9 Conduit Street, W.  
August 1920.

DEAR SIR,—

I am directed to inform you that at the conclusion of the meeting on Wednesday, 18th May last, called by the R.I.B.A. for the purpose of electing representatives of the Licentiatees on the Unification Committee, a further meeting was held at which it was decided to form a permanent Committee in order that the seven representatives elected to serve on the Unification Committee might have the advantage of conferring with their fellow Licentiatees.

The future status of the architect depends upon the action taken now for the welfare of the architectural profession as a whole. It devolves upon the Licentiatees as a class to form a strong organisation, so that the interests of the architectural community at large may receive careful consideration, in deciding the policy regarding unification and registration. It has been decided to hold a General Meeting of Licentiatees at the R.I.B.A. on 17th September 1920 to discuss the whole question and to take initial steps for forming the Licentiatees into a living body. All Licentiatees, therefore, are called upon to make a special effort to attend this meeting, since the future of the architectural profession is the work in hand.

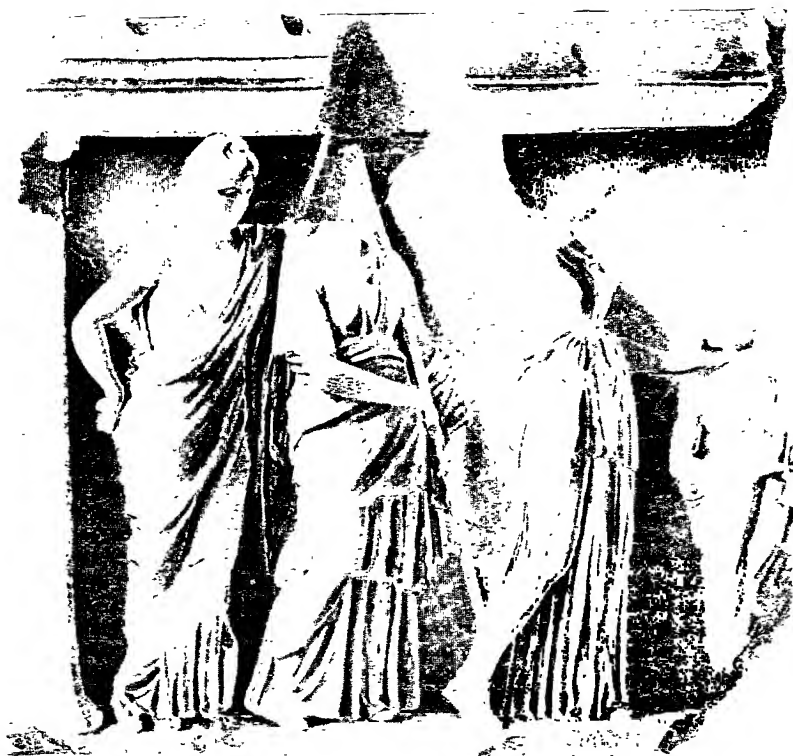
SAMUEL G. SHORT, *Licentiate*.

### Licentiatees and the Fellowship.

The attention of Licentiatees is called to the fact that, under the provisions of the Charter and By-laws, the last date on which a Licentiate can be nominated for the Fellowship is the 31st December 1920 (see Suppl. Charter, Clause 2, and By-law 7). The Examination qualifying for candidature takes place in November, and applications for admission must be sent in to the Secretary not later than *Saturday, 16th October*. Particulars of the Examination may be obtained upon application to the Secretary.

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ASSISTANT.—A good, qualified assistant, aged from 27 to 40, preferably single, is wanted to supervise architectural work at Feltham. Must be a man with good taste, and tactful.—Address Box 240, Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street.



FRAGMENT OF BAS-RELIEF.  
(From an engraving in the Society of Dilettanti's *Antiquities of Ionia*, Part V.)

## GREEK STUDIES.

By THEODORE FYFE [F.].

THE whole history of Architecture has, perhaps, been written once; but it needs re-editing. Many things need editing—Létarouilly, for example. A fine piece of work of this kind was done by Professor Lethaby, with the material left over by the artists who worked for the Society of Dilettanti. Crowe and Cavalcaselle, in a sense, edited the Italian masters of painting. In the late Arthur Strong's editing of such things as Tintoretto drawings we seem to get to the heart of the matter with the briefest number of words.

Turning to Greek Architecture, we find that the proper progression of study is clearly definable. We must have, first, the explorer or surveying architect and his reports; secondly, the critical publication of his results; thirdly and lastly, their embodiment in some reasonable form, with correlated and general studies. So much, however, remains to be found out that we seem to be cutting steps all the time. We get facets of study rather than any final history. Take the Ægean field, for an instance: many years have rolled by since writers first began to embody the results of Cretan discoveries; yet, from the very nature of the case, there does not exist, to date, any authoritative publication of the whole content of these discoveries. Sir Arthur Evans's forthcoming publication of *The Palace of Knossos* will go far to remove this difficulty.

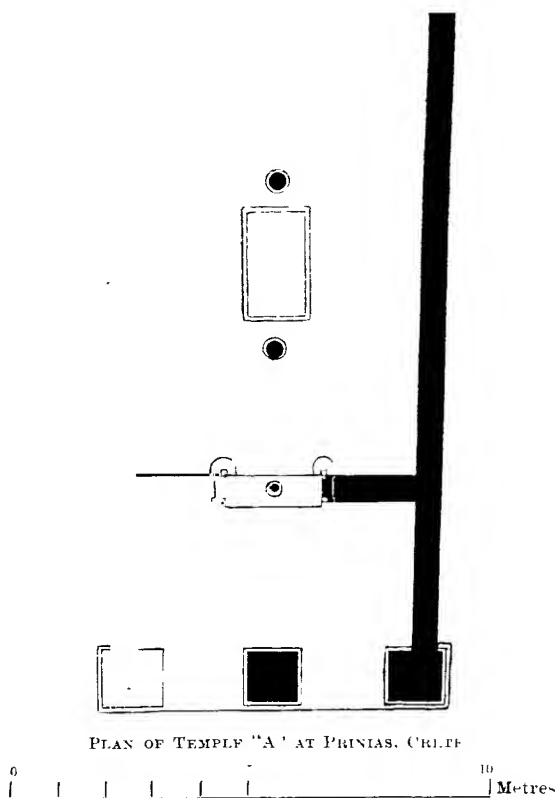
Beginning with our first step in progress, let us see what has been done recently in the way of excavation. At Mycenæ the British School at Athens have made some remarkable finds this last spring.\* At last we have a scholar of Mr. Wace's reputation who, working on first-hand evidence, fairly claims the Lion Gate and the great "beehive" tomb as belonging to the almost historical period

\* See Mr. A. J. B. Wace's account in *The Times Literary Supplement* for June 15th, and Sir Arthur Evans's letter in the same for June 24th.

of the Atridæ, instead of to the great earlier art of Minoan Crete. If this be true in fact, it would appeal to the imagination of the schoolboy, as well as to the more mature. It is too early to do more than wonder, yet one appreciates the note of warning voiced by Sir Arthur Evans. We can, in fact, put the matter this way: the "Treasury of Atreus" is a remarkable and extraordinarily fine piece of constructive masonry, on a monumental scale: the Lion Gate is one of the most impressive fragments in Europe. On the other hand, though the chronological period of the Atridæ may bring us within sight of a period of great literature, it does not, on the evidence so far available, bring us into a period of great art. So far as the Lion Gate is concerned, there is a possibility which should not be advanced as another hypothesis, but as a corollary: the tympanum of the cyclopean gateway may have been constructed to contain the triangular carved panel, some noble fragment of earlier date? Be that as

it may, there can be no doubt that the lions on the panel show the closest affinity with the finest reliefs of Minoan Crete.

Leaving Mycenæ, we can turn to Crete for an illustration of our second step in progress. There, Dr. Luigi Pernier, late of the Italian Archaeological Mission in the Near East, has discovered, at Prinias, a most remarkable archaic Greek Temple.\* It is curious that Crete has furnished us with this, undoubtedly the most interesting and complete extant example of the architectural treatment of a Greek Temple prior to the 6th century B.C. The illustrations show the plan, a drawing of the restoration of the temple front, and a photograph of the fragments of the lintel of the entrance doorway. The design of the doorway shews largeness of conception, and the sculpture is certainly made to express the purpose of the building. The "Mother Goddess" herself it may be who is carved full length on the soffit of the lintel, the seated figures being her attendants or guardians, and the maneless lions and stags on the face her attributes. At any rate we have here an exceedingly interesting and vital piece of work. A fairly adequate parallel to the lintel can be found at Assos,† and Dr. Pernier illustrates Etruscan parallels. The seated figures at the ends are



PLAN OF TEMPLE "A" AT PRINIAS. CHIEF

admirable, but are obviously more stylistic than the rest of the sculpture. With the collapse of the slender central pillar of the doorway, the lintel must, of course, have fallen. The doorway is, in effect, a single one, but the central pillar skilfully reconciles the entrance with the principle of central support which is apparent elsewhere throughout, while the necessary breadth of effect is maintained.

The details of this temple make us pause, particularly as they come from Crete. We see what must be Dorian work in the main, but strongly impressed with Egyptian ideas, and through all, perhaps, the echo of the religion of Crete. The frieze of the front contained horses with riders in relief, an

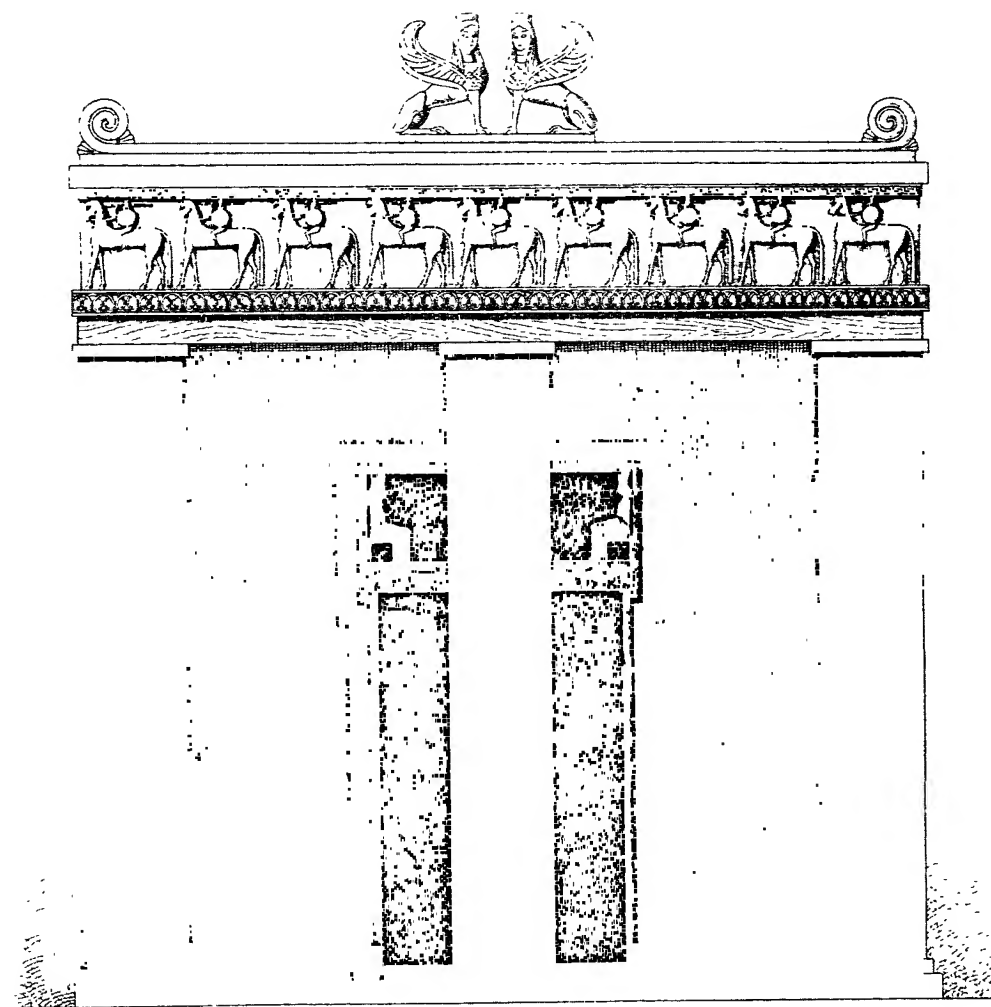
\* Temple A. Through the courtesy of Dr. Pernier, the JOURNAL is able to reproduce three of the illustrations to his article in *Annuario della Regia Scuola Archeologica di Atene*, etc.—Vol. I. Bergamo 1914. The same volume contains a well-illustrated article on the Mediaeval Anti-

quities of the Sperades, by Dr. Giuseppe Gerola, whose researches in Crete and the Islands have formed an important part of the work of the Italian Archaeological Mission during the past 20 years.

† See *Anderson and Spots*, page 26.



unmistakable Northern touch, the treatment somewhat primitive in conception and poles apart from the finest Minoan expression in animal sculpture ; with which, in fact, it had nothing to do, except perhaps for a memory of technique in the mind of some Cretan craftsman. The inner architrave of the doorway was ornamented with a simple " Greek key " pattern, not shown on the elevation here illustrated. It should be noted that this temple is of small size (the cella is only about 32 feet long), which in some respects makes it more interesting as its obvious " restoration " is more certain.



TEMPLE "A" AT PRINIAS, CRETE. ELEVATION OF FRONT, RESTORED.  
(From a drawing by G. Stefani)

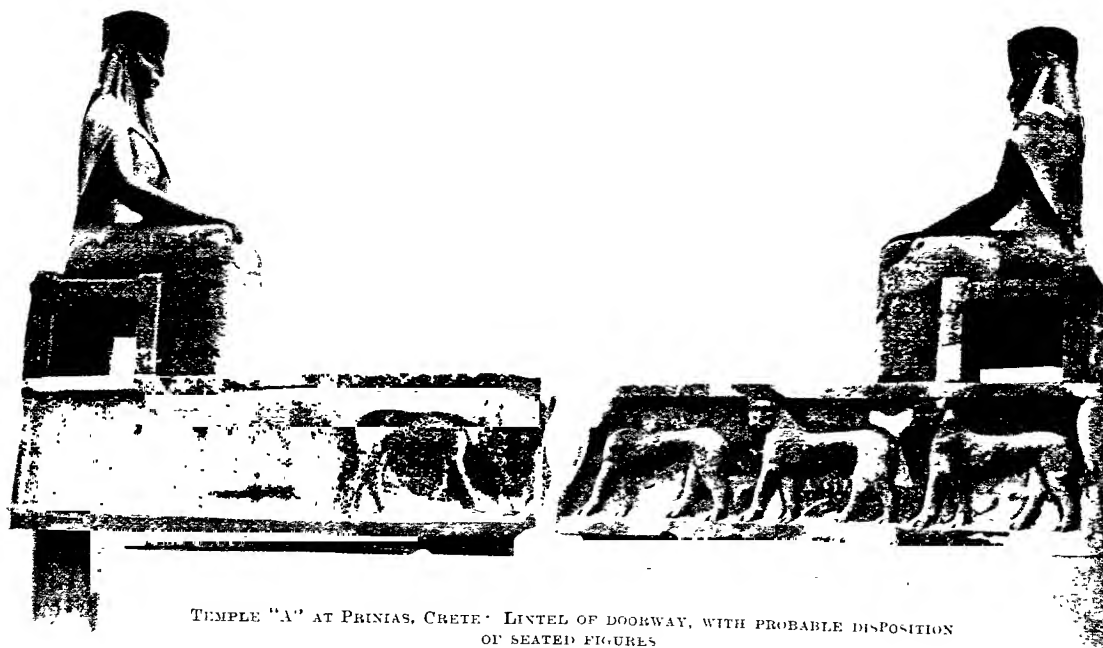
Dr. Pernier's method of presentation should be noted. He illustrates carefully every relevant fragment of the structure as it was found, then goes on to possible or probable groupings of parts, and finally gives restorations of the whole. Nothing could be better ; in fact it is the only way to publish material of this kind. It might be added that he appears to be fairly well justified of his results.

The third and last illustration in our progress report belongs to general study. In the late Professor Langford Warren's book on *The Foundations of Classic Architecture*,\* we have the latest very

\* Published by Macmillan & Co., Ltd., New York and London. La. So.

manful attempt to generalise on the whole of the Greek field. The scope of the book is, in fact, much wider than this, as it includes Egypt, Mesopotamia, Persia, and naturally the Ægean. One wants, of course, to get at the writer's mind. It is interesting to note that about one-third of the book treats of work outside Greece and the Ægean, and that of the remainder about one half is an analysis of Greek Doric. We are baulked in a sense, because the book, as it stands, is incomplete; still, the facts have some significance. We are left to speculate to what extent the author would have enlarged on other aspects of the culminating period: he had evidently commenced an analysis of the buildings of the Acropolis.

There is not much that one need say about the matter of the book, beyond praise. The author has gone over what is, for the most part, familiar ground, and has done this carefully and well. It is at least of equal importance to apprehend the method. The author had evidently intended a great history, and his editor speaks feelingly of his Mediæval studies. We can only speculate on the general



TEMPLE "A" AT PRINIAS, CRETE. LINTEL OF DOORWAY, WITH PROBABLE DISPOSITION OF SEATED FIGURES

plan from the treatment of the fragment. What appears is a treatment not encyclopædic, like Fergusson's, but what, for lack of a better term, we may term proportional: that is to say, certain known and admired phases of architectural development are given not only the special attention which they merit, but are treated with all the wealth of imagination of which the author is capable. There is danger in this, of course: we are apt to lose facts for the sake of opinions: in fact, it may lead at times to questions of how much we can stand. It may, indeed, be more difficult to write a general history of Greek Architecture than almost any other kind of architectural history, even including one of all styles. So much of the work is known to be superlatively excellent that there is often but a straight and narrow way between rhapsody on the one hand and archaeological obsession on the other.

To conclude, we see that of fresh archæological research of the really practical kind we have such excellent evidence as Mr. Wace's work at Mycenæ and Dr. Pernier's in Crete. In the general field we continue to get many admirable essays, crosslighted, as it were, by the scintillating studies of Professor Lethaby, whose total output in this field may one day, let us hope, astonish us even more than it has done already.

After all, perhaps, the careful presentation of particular buildings, or groups of buildings showing a similar prevalence of type, with as strong a dash of the biographical element as can be mustered, may be the most valuable method of study at the present time. Such books as the late Richard Norton's *Bernini*, or Mr. Bereson's *Study and Criticism of Italian Art*, are alive to us because in them the personal element is so strongly realised. They permit of that leisurely stretching of the mind which enables us to see things in their proper perspective. There is much in Greek Architecture that could be studied in this way. Extensive knowledge working on intensive lines is bound to be helpful, because, when all is said, it is just this method which we all have to apply to the individual problems of to-day.

### THE TRUE INWARDNESS OF MR. HAMBIDGE'S THEORY OF DYNAMIC SYMMETRY.\*

By CLAUDESLEY BRERETON.

SOME time ago Mr. Jay Hambidge gave a lecture on dynamic symmetry to the Art Workers' Guild and, judging by the attitude of the audience, the presentation of his views made a considerable impression on a large number of them while inspiring the remainder with a keen desire to hear more. He was particularly insistent on the point that he was not trying to develop a new theory of æsthetics, which many of his English critics seemed to think, although to the present writer his work, whatever its aim, appears fraught with the highest significance. Much less did he pretend to give a sort of recipe for manufacturing beauty—the research for which, one imagines, would be as profitable as that for the philosopher's stone. In fact, he was not so much concerned with the artist as with the craftsman; out of whom he rather maintained the artist should develop. In reality he seemed to have little use for the artist who did not seek to be a super-craftsman. His theory, to put it in a paradox, seemed to be "Take care of the crafts and the art will take care of itself." He held very strongly that the more consummate the craftsmanship of an age the greater its artistic masterpieces would be, and he instanced Phidias as the most consummate of craftsmen.

From Mr. Hambidge's point of view we cannot have too much knowledge of technique provided that the person who acquires it recognises that technique is but the *generalised* experience of the craft and always regards it, not as a substitute for, but as an ancillary aid to creative work. Its presence in an artistic masterpiece can only add greater richness and ripeness to it.

All this seems very true. To impart technique, whether on Montessori or other lines, is in fact one of the major objects of all education. Technique from this aspect is the self-imposed yoke whose service is perfect freedom, for without it freedom is mere licence; or, in other words, the greatest artist consciously submits to technique in order to triumph over it, being ready to break any one of its principles to

achieve greatness, but not to break them all at once, for that is mere anarchism—ready again, when he breaks them, to explain why he did so. Every supremely great artist is a potential Antigone whose breach of the highest conventions is justified by the results, and all the more readily explainable by the artist himself the more profoundly he is acquainted with the existing canon of conventions which, like a judge of the Supreme Court, he is perpetually interpreting. The greatest artists, the Leonardos and the Phidias, are those who have pondered the deepest on their art or turned the searchlight of their consciousness on the productions of their subliminal self.

Of course, without inspiration there can be no true art. But *vis consili expers nullo ruit sua*, and inspiration even with its happiest and apparently most spontaneous moments depends on the calling into play that precious experience of a lifetime, external or internal, of which Whistler spoke. If the painter or the poet is to utter adequately the thoughts that arise in him, the forces he mobilises for self-expression, for creating the outward and visible symbol of his passion, are just the technical experience he has been amassing consciously or unconsciously during the preceding part of his life.

This is the true element in the saying that genius is the infinite capacity for taking pains. Genius always does take infinite pains, though the result may only be ultimately revealed by the shortening of the artist's life. Qualitatively a genius may live ten years in ten days and die at thirty. But whether those pains be the work of the brooding spirit within or outward attempts at self-expression, in either case or both they may be lightened and alleviated by studying the experience of the particular art or craft concerned, always bearing in mind that one cannot get hold of too much of this experience if one looks at it not as a set of immutable laws but as so many starting points for fresh discovery, truths up to date and nothing more, though some of them may remain unaltered for centuries, like the law of gravity, till an Einstein comes along.

But this defence of technique as a necessary acquisition in education of every sort and kind, though Mr. Hambidge is naturally in no wise responsible for it, will in the course of the article assist, one hopes, in justifying what he is trying to do, or rather has been trying to do for the last twenty years.

\* "Greek Design," by Jay Hambidge [JOURNAL R.I.B.A. 20th March 1929].

And what is that?

To put it in a nut shell, he is apparently out to recover what one may call some of the *lost grammar of ancient craftsmanship*. I use the word "grammar" advisedly because any act of self-expression must have its self-evolved rules, be it oratory, poetry, painting, sculpture, pottery, basket-making or what not. Moreover, in order to give this grammar a rational basis, he has analysed it and found that like all true grammars it possesses an essential element of logic in it.

To take the "grammar" itself first. If we examine its function in the literary sphere, we find it dealing with the mere carpentry and joinery of sentences, ensuring thereby verbal correctness, while in its highest development as rhetoric it concerns itself with the problems of style. These two stages are also apparent in the other arts. The simple grammar of the ordinary stone-masons or furniture-maker will not produce Gothic cathedrals or Chippendale chefs-d'œuvres, but it will ensure that the house that is being built will not topple over and that the chair that is being made will support an average weight.

But such things are the mere A B C of the craftsman's technique. When a great school of building or a great school of furniture-making has been in existence some time, then the technique of the master craftsman will evolve into an elaborate canon of style, codifying the common experience of the guild, just as the French language through the countless labours of several centuries of grammarians and writers has been worked up into the wonderful organ of expression it is to-day, while still preserving its liberty to progress.

Now it is just one of the most important canons of style that Mr. Hambidge has recovered to-day after twenty years of patient, exhaustive experiment. For his principle of dynamic symmetry (personally one would have preferred the term *natural* as opposed to artificial, since the symmetry is found in Nature) is, as he has proved by thousands of actual measurements, the general principle that underlies the creations of the finest productions of Greek art at its most flourishing epoch. That is, that the Greeks, whether plotting out a temple or hewing a statue or moulding a vase, selected for the ground-plan of their designs areas whose two sides, in contrast to Mr. Hambidge's so-called Static Symmetry, were always incommensurable, this particular category of areas being obviously regarded by them as the most fitting space within which to set out their masterpieces.

But by an absolutely natural evolution every technician begins at a certain stage to try to find out what are the laws underlying the lore or "grammar" that has gradually grown up round his cult, to divine the reason or reasons which led him, if he were (say) a poet or an orator, to look below the dictates of "use and wont," till by dint of thinking he discovers how large an element of *logic* his grammar contains. It is probably here, however, that, language being more abstract than most of the arts, the logical analysis of

its grammar was posterior to that of the grammar of the other arts. But every civilised people must sooner or later, like M. Jourdain, make the discovery that it has been talking prose!—that is to say, the linguistic medium it uses possesses certain definite rules. Perhaps the clearest instance, however, of this emergence of the logical factor in any art or craft is the history of Euclidean Geometry, originally evolved in Egypt as the scientific element underlying the art of land surveying, itself in turn rendered necessary by the obliteration of landmarks in the Nile Valley by the yearly floods. The codified practice of the land surveyors—their "grammar" in fact—was found to repose, allowing for, or rather ignoring, minute personal differences in measurements, on certain definite, logical and rational bases. And what was true of the ancient land-surveyors was true of the ancient builders and stone-masons. They, too, discovered the mathematical laws underlying right construction, and, as their sense of beauty in the constructive arts developed, they also found out certain higher formulae that summarised their ideas of proportion and design.

The mathematics employed by Mr. Hambidge are therefore merely the logical exposition of the scientific basis of one of the most fundamental principles in Greek art. This scientific basis was in all probability known to the Greeks, but had already been superseded, when the Romans came into close contact with them by a development in art which was really a step towards decay.

Mr. Hambidge believes that in re-introducing this principle of Dynamic Symmetry into design as far as craftsmanship is concerned he will re-introduce into it one of the most *revitalising* elements, by giving us from the Montessori point of view the right *"lien"* to work in. He feels sure it will also have a beneficial effect in turn on the fine arts, which in the opinion of some to-day are still too much divorced from the crafts from which they sprang. Like Antaeus they must seek a renewal of strength from the prime source of their origin if they are to escape the strangle-hold of the many-headed crowd that, like Hercules, threatens in the near future to crush to death any *Intelligensia* too divorced from actual life.

The extraordinary subdivisions of labour that the industrial revolution has inflicted on us alike in science, art and craft have with their minute watertight compartments made us forget that life is *one*, that *tout se tient*, and that everything is in everything. Many to-day, especially the votaries of art for art's sake (a kind of Super-Pragmatism), are amused or irritated at the suggestion that there is a scientific or intelligible element in Beauty though the man of science knows there is one of beauty in Truth and the religious man knows there is an element of both in Goodness. The fact is that in the trinity of Beauty, Truth and Goodness each *dominant* element contains a subordinate element of the other two. Our age, analytical to absurdity, has not hesitated to divorce

Beauty from Goodness and Goodness from Truth; and yet, in all reverence, we would ask what meaning in its theological counterpart would God the Son have if completely sundered from God the Father? Surely that august Triad, the highest pinnacle of Western thought, must stand or fall together.

The work of Mr. Hambidge in retrieving one of the most vital principles of all the arts that work in two or more dimensions has liberated a vital sap that will not cease to circulate till it has mounted to some of the topmost branches of human activity.

## LONDON TOWN-PLANNING SCHEMES IN 1666.

By SYDNEY PERKS, F.S.A. [F.].

WHEN I had the honour of reading a Paper before the Institute on the above subject, I referred to Evelyn's first plan, to which he gave the title "Londinum Redivivum," and in which he refers to his "Discourse now in the Paper Office." I made many inquiries at the time, but failed to trace the original or any copy of the Discourse. I think readers of the JOURNAL will be glad to hear that in Vol. 94 of MSS. in the Guildhall Library there is a copy of the Discourse, apparently made about the end of the eighteenth century. Finding that the pamphlet is unknown (either as a MS. or printed matter) at the British Museum, at Wootton House, at the Record Office, or at the Bodleian Library, I thought the document might fitly be given the hospitality of our JOURNAL, and I append its full text. The Discourse has the same heading as Evelyn's Plan No. 1, and the description of the scheme refers to that plan.

To economise space I will briefly call attention to the following points:—

1. Evelyn pointed out the necessity for a plan of the City as it existed at the time of the Fire.

2. A reference is made to the extraordinarily bad state of the roads at the time of the Fire.

3. Evelyn proposed a width of 100 feet for the principal streets, or 10 feet wider than those shown on Wren's plan.

4. Evelyn wanted to retain a site for St. Paul's Cathedral as large as the old building, and improve the churchyard. He evidently hoped the old building might remain. Wren's suggestion was a ridiculously small new building.

5. Evelyn proposed magnificent main approaches to the Cathedral from six directions. Wren only provided for one.

Professor Richardson, in the debate on my Paper (JOURNAL R.I.B.A., Vol. XXVII., 20th December, 1919, p. 81), stated "on authority of an obscure letter" by Pepys, "that the streets, as proposed by Sir C. Wren, were actually staked out for Londoners to see." I communicated with the Professor, and he kindly informed me that he spoke from memory, and

the reference in his mind was the entry in Pepys' Diary of 29th March, 1667, which states that "the great streets in the City are marked out." But those were not Wren's streets. In the first place it would have been a physical impossibility to mark them out. Wren's plan was killed by the King's Declaration signed on 13th September, 1666 (JOURNAL, *ib.* p. 77). The staking out was for the improvements under the Act for Rebuilding London which was passed on 8th February, 1667. That Act having been passed, how can it be suggested that Wren's rejected scheme was staked out about six weeks later? It is a pity this confusion has arisen, but the extracts I gave from important documents were never published before December last, when they appeared in our JOURNAL. With reference to Pepys' entry of 24th February, 1667, and Colonel Birch's suggestion that trustees should buy all the land, there is nothing to suggest that this referred to Wren's scheme. He was evidently discussing the machinery for dealing with claims, boundaries, etc., when the Bill above referred to was before Parliament. I think I proved that Wren's scheme was never submitted to Parliament.

I have shown the above paragraph to Professor Richardson, and am pleased to state that he agrees with me.

### Evelyn's "Discourse."

*LONDINUM REDIVIVUM, or LONDON RESTORED not to its prestine, but to far greater Beauty Commodiousness and magnificence. Humbly represented in certain Proposals concerning the rebuilding of that famous and ancient Metropolis. 13 Feb. 14. Non enim habemus sic, stabilem Civitatem, sed futuram illam Inquirimus.*

The pretences of the several Proprietors in the fonds being first of all secur'd, and put into such a method, as by the wisdom of his Majestie and Parliament shall be found most conducive to the prevention of future suits and disturbances, interrupting the order of a new designation; the city of London might doubtless be rendered as far superior to any other city in the habitable world for beauty; commodiousness, and magnificence (the situation and other circumstances consider'd) as it has hitherto ben somewhat inferior to many imperial cities in Europe, for want of improving those advantages, which God and Nature have dignified it withall above them.

In pursuance of this (if without offence, and with submission to abler judgements, I may with others be permitted to cast in my Symbole) I humbly conceive, that an exact plott, according to the geometrical scale of feet, ought in the first place to be taken by some able Artist, and in that accurately to be described all the declivities, eminences, water courses, etc., of the whole *Area*. The Gent. who performed that of Tangier (according to my conceptions of that plan) might, I suppose, be a very fitting person for that employment. After this I conceive there may be delineated some more particular ichnographical plan of the whole city *membratim*, as it were, with the principal streets: where the piazzas, churches, hospitals, courts of justice, halls, markets, key, exchange, magazines &c shall be placed. And this ought to be the joyn't and mature con-

trivance of the ablest men. Merchants, Architects, and Workmen, in consort : and such as have a true idea what proprieties, and conveniences, belong to so great a city, and which I therefore briefly, but fully, comprehend in these two transcendences, Use and Ornament.

The plan thus prepared and resolved on, hands must be employed for the speedy removal of the rubbish, which should be so disposed of, as might best signify to the carrying on of the work, by laying apart, and carefully separating all such materials, as may be usefull for the several occasions of building, coving, filling up, and to be seifted for the mortar ; clensing and severing the whole bricks, batts, stones &c. every of which should be consigned to such void places, as by the draughts are to be so left, for avoiding after removals and confusion, and that the ground may be disincumbered, and fitted for the laying out, and digging of foundations. And in order to their future stability, and for that divers of them may be of singular use to the inhabitants, and save a world of charge in making new ones, there would also be drawn, and accurately measured, a subterranean plan of all the vaults, cellars, and arch'd Meanders, yet remaining, thereby to consider how they may fall out, and accommodate to the new erections, what were fit to be filled and dam'd up, and what to be reserved.

It were therefore (I say) highly requisite, that this rubbish were perfectly cleared, that so the inequalities, and several affections of the surface might be the more apparent. But *hic labor hoc opus*, this will be found a work of unimaginable difficulty, and require a multitude of hands ; nor can it be effected to purpose, without infinite confusion (as it presents itself to my apprehension) 'till those several plans and types of the future city be first concluded on, and apply'd accordingly : and then they may stake it out, and deliver it to the owners of the ground : provided they exactly conform to the plott, to the shape of the front, and to such other directions for uniformity and solidity, as his Majesties Surveyors or Commissioners shall appoint. In this work it might happily be thought fit to fill up, or at least give a partial levell to some of the deepest valies, holes and more suddain declivities, within the city, for the more ease of commerce, carriages, coaches, and people in the streets, and not a little for the more handsome ranging of the buildings. For instance, *that* from about the Fleet to Ludgate, which yet should be no more, than might only afford a gracefull and just ascent from thence up towards St. Pauls, the only spot in the whole city, where I would plant that ancient and venerable cathedral again. But here is to be considered the channel running thence through Holborn, which would be so enlarged as not only to be preserv'd sweet (by scowring it through floodgates into the Thames on all occasions) but commodious for the intercourse of considerable vessels, thwart this portion of the town, and which therefore should be accordingly warfed on both sides to the very key of the river, and made contiguous to the streets by bridges arch'd to a due level, as it might easily be contrived (and with passage sufficient for lusty bargers and litters under them) were the vally so elevated as tis projected. There is only this care incumbent, that all foundations upon this new ground be searched to the old and more solid basis, from whence they may also store themselves with vaults and celleredge in abundance. The same might be considered in some sort from the descent of the hill towards Thames-street, so as to come down upon the future key by a far less declivity, which would give those houses, that should be built fronting to the river, a more becoming aspect, and an easier footing to the ranges

above them, which would peep over one another successively, with a far better grace, than those do at Genoa, where the ascent is too praeipitious.

These considerations and employments would greatly forward the prompt and natural dispose of the more useless and cumbersome rubbish, unless it might be thought more expedient (if there should not be sufficient for both) to designe it rather towards the enlargement of a new and ample key, which I wish might run parallel from the very Tower to the Temple at least, and if it were possible (without augmenting the rapidity of the stream) extend itself even as far as the very low water mark : the basin by this means kept perpetually full, without slub or annoyance, and to the infinite benefit and ease of access, like that of Constantinople, than which nothing could be imagined more noble. What fractions and confusions our ougly stayres, bridges, and causes, make, and how dirty, and nasty it is at every ebbe, we are sufficiently sensible of : so as next to the hellish smoke of the town, there is nothing doubtless, which does more impair the health of its inhabitants.

In the dispose of the streets due consideration should be had, what are compitant breadths for commerce and intercourse, cherefullness and state : and therefore not to pass through the city all in one tenor without varieties, usefull breakings, and enlargements into piazzas at competent distances, which ought to be built exactly uniform, strong, and with beautifull fronts. Nor should these be all of them square, but some of them oblong, circular, and oval figures, for their better grace and capacity. I would allow none of the principal streets less than an hundred foot in breadth, nor any of the narrowest than thirty, their opening, and heights proportionable. And of these I suppose there may be three, if not four, between the Thames and London Wall, reconing that of Cheapside for the chiefe : which being likewise the largest may extend itself from Temple barr to the very upper part of Tower hill, or Crutchet Fryars, and bear the cathedral of St. Pauls upon such an eminence of ground, as would hardly be parallel'd in any city of the world.

Amongst these streets should be the parochial churches (which may well be reduced to a moiety, for tis prodigiously true, that there are some parishes no less than two hundred times larger than others) so placed and interspersed, as may have some reference to the adornment of the profile of the city upon all its avenues, and therefore at studied intervals, and so built after the modern architecture without, and contrivance within, as may best answer their pious designation : for which Mr. Graunt has judiciously perstring'd our old ones, in that ingenious piece of his upon the bills of Mortality. Most of these I could wish might be founded in the centers of spacious areas, piazzas &c. so as to be conspicuous to several streets, crossing upon them, as some of the Roman obelises are : and other at the abutments and extremities of them ; which might also be observed for the raising of publick fountains. It is about these church piazzas that the Stationers should have their shops, and the Ministers their houses : as about that of St. Paul might again be re-established the episcopal palace, the Dean and Prebends houses : the grammar school, a publick library : the prerogative and first fruits office &c. All which would be built at ample distance from the cathedral, and with more stately fronts, in honour of that august pile. As for the church yards, I would have them univerisly proscribed to the very utmost wall of the city northwards, upon which inscriptions, and monuments might be aptly inserted, and the dead interr'd, either in vaults, or the open ground,

affording a usefull diversion to the contemplative passenger of his mortality and humane frailty ; for as to that superstitious custome of burying in churches, or having their dormitories in the very heart of cities, where frequently churches are built, I neither think it decent, nor sufferable.

In the piazzas should be kept the several markets, in others the coaches may wait &c. and in some should be publick fountains placed : not as formerly immur'd with blind and melancholy walls, but left free to play, and shew their christial waters, as in most of the best cities of Europe they do, save this of ours, where an officer for a small stipend, might protect them from injury and pollution, till custome has civilized us.

Between the piazzas, market places, and churches, might be the halls for the antient companies. These if fronted at least with stone, adorned with statues, and other ornaments, would infinitely enrich the streets, and render this city as famous for architecture of the most refined *Gusto*, and as worthy to be consider'd of Travellers, as any city in Europe. But especially, should the Guild, or Magistratical Hall of assembly have something of more pompous and great, after the example of the State House at Amsterdam : at least to some proportion : and this likewise ought to be built in one of the most eminent parts of the city. Near unto this might be designed a magnificent house for the Lord Mayor and others for the two sherifs of London : which being erected at the publick charge, ought to be the constant residence of the Gentlemen, who bear that office *pro tempore*, and would therefore be contriv'd accordingly.

I should think the Royal Exchange might front the key betwixt Queen-hyth and the Bridge, about the Stell-yard I conceive were a proper place, respecting the goodliest river in the world where the trafique, and business is most vigorous (but for this I submit to better judgements) : wherever it be built, it will be necessary to amplify the old designe, which was much too narrow for the assemblies. If it should be erected neere the Thames, let there be spacious piazzas about it, either for dwellings or publique ware-houses : which yet I should rather advise might be contriv'd in the vaults under those edifices ; because a sad experience has taught us, how secure they are there, being prudently govern'd. And for such other stores as will not be well preserved under ground, there would by any means some expedient be found out, that they might not front the Thames on London side, at least very sparingly : not only for that they may yet become obnoxious to the like accidents (being built contiguous to the rest) but because, if there be not ample separations and distances (which would infinitely disfigure and interrupt the face of that key) they will no where stand commodiously. How greatly therefore were it to be wished, that such a depth of those wretched houses on the opposite side of the water were purchased, and demolished, to make room for these stores ? The wharves before, and yards behind made large enough for the placing and working of cranes, the laying of deal, timber, clap-board, pipstaves, millstones, fagotts, wood and coals, and other grosse commodities : whilst the goodly key over against it might be built for the owners, and dwellings of the principal merchants. Or if needes the ware-houses must be on this side, yet that they were made rather to front Thames street than the river, because of the dull and heavy aspect of those kind of erections.

That little bay at Queen-hyth would have the key contriv'd about it, of a good breadth from the houses, which may be cloyster'd about for the market men and fruiterers. And then, where now that wharfe is, a stately avenue from

the water side up to St. Paul's, which might extend itself into an ample semi-circle upon the key becoming that lovely margent. This I should conceive might be one of the five principal traverse streets of the whole city, and to reach as far as Alders-gate, or, if you will, further along the wall, as it might be carried : that from Queen-hyth to Cripple-gate, that from the Exchange to Moore-gate, that opposite to the bridge to Bishops-gate, that from Belins-gate neer as far : that from the Costume-house to Ald-gate, as that from Black friers stayres as far as into West Smith-field : thus decussating and crossing the four longer streets, passing from East to West, whereof one might extend from the channel, which intercepts it at St. Brides to the very Tower. This is what I call Thames street, and would destine for store houses, in case of necessity. The second is (as has been say'd) from the strand to the utmost Eastern point of the whole city : where I would have erected a noble gate, in manner of a triumphal arch, in honour of our illustrious Monarch. This street from St. Pauls may be varicated like a Pythagorean Y, as the most accurately ingenious Dr. Wren has design'd it, and I willingly follow in my\* second thoughts ; because of its handsome addresses to the bridge, and to the opposite parts of the town. The third from New-gate to Ald-gate, and with a little assistance butting into Holborne. The fourth and last from Alders-gate to Bishops-gate, which will be the shortest. The wall betwixt Cripple-gate and Aldgate to be employ'd, as I sayd, for the church yards of the several parishes ; and the houses opposite to them, with a large street, for the common Inns, receptacle and station of Carriers &c. which being on the North part of the city, and neerest the confines of the feilds, and roads, would least cumber and infest the town, and yet have a far more comodious and easy access to them, by reason of their immediate approaches through the traverse streets, than now that they are scattered up and down without distinction.

For the rest of those necessary evils, the Brewhouses, Bakehouses, Diers, Salt, Sope and Sugar-boilers, Chandlers, Hatmakers, Slaughter-houses, some sort of Fishmongers &c. whose neighbourhood cannot be safe (as I have elsewhere shew'd,† and a sad experience has confirmed) I hope his Majestie will now dispose of to some other parts about the river, towards Bow and Wandsworth on the water : Islington, and about Spittlefeilds &c. The charge of bringing all their commodities into the city would be very inconsiderable, oppos'd to the perill of their being continued amongst the inhabitants : and the benefit of the carriage, which would employ a world of people both by land and water, without the least prejudice.

I suppose the Costume-house cannot be better situated than where it was : and as it may hold communication with the Tower, here might the Admiralty, and Navy-office be fittly placed.

I have not forgotten the Hospitals, publique Work-houses to employ the poor in, and Prisons : which being built, and reindow'd at the common charge, should be disposed of in convenient quarters of the city. The Hospitals would become one of the principal streets, but the prisons, and Tribunal for tryal of criminal offenders, might be built (as of old) neer some entrance of the city : about New-gate were a fitting place, as my plott represents it.

The College of physicians would be in one of the best

\* I did read this discourse to the Dr. before I had seen his plot viz. 11th Sept.

† In *Edmofonia* presented to his Majestie 1660, forewarning this sad accident.



parts of the towne, incircled with an handsom piazza for the dwelling of those learned persons, with the Chirurgions, Apothecaries, and Drougists in the streets about them : for I am greatly inclin'd to wish, that all of a mysterie should be destined to their several quarters. Those of the better sort of shop keepers, who sell by retail, might be allotted to the sweetest, and most eminent streets and piazzas. The Artificers to the more ordinary houses, inter-medial and narrower passages (for such will hardly be avoided) that the noyse and tintamarre of their instruments may be the less importunate. The Taverns and Victualing houses sprinkled amongst them, and built accordingly. But even all these too, even the very meanest, should exactly respect uniformity, and be more substantially built than those in Covent-Garden, and other places, where once in twenty or thirty years they had need be built again, and therefore to be indulg'd a longer term.

Spaces for ample Courts, Yards, and Gardens, even in the heart of the city there may be some to the principal houses, for state and refreshment : but with great reservation, because of the fractions they will make, and therefore rarely towards any principal streete. And I hope it will please his Majestie to proscribe by a publique and irreversable Edict, that no houses whatsoever may for the future, presume to be erected, not only about this city, but all the Nation besides, within such a distance from Magazines, Places of publique Records, and Churches, which should be preserv'd as Sanctuaries.

The Gates and Entries of the city, which are to be rebuilt, might be the subjects of handsome architecture, in form of triumphal arches, adorn'd with Statues, Relievos, and apposite Inscriptions, as Praefaces to the rest within, and should therefore by no means be obstructed by sheads, and ougly shops, or houses adhearing to them. And I wish this reformation, and the infinite danger of their being continued, might extend to the demolishing those diformed buildings on London-bridge ; which not only indanger all the rest, but takes away from the beauty of it, and indeed of the whole city near the Thames. Instead of them, if there went a substantial Balustre of iron, decor'd with Statues upon their pedestals, at convenient distances, and the foot way elevated on each side, it would be exceedingly convenient : whilst to secure the passengers by night, it might be guarded by responsible house keepers in their turns. Or if they will needs have shops, let them be built of solid stone, made narrow and very low, like to those upon the Rialto at Venice ; but it were far better without them.

One of the last, not least considerations, will be that of Paving, for which we have a laudable example in those streets of my Lord Treasurers, and Hatton Gardens, which may be imitated. And why may not some of the distorted bricks, to be found amongst the rubbish, be reserved for these purposes : especially the elevations destin'd for the foot-causeys before the fronts of the houses ? Unless they will be at the charge to lay it with Purbeck and flat stones, which indeed were to be preferred, yet their clinkears in Holland dos very well ; and, as I remember, the Roman streets are so pav'd.

I have now no more to add, for the ease, and preservation of the streets, than to wish, that the use of sleds were introduc'd, and as few heavy carts as might be countenanc'd. And that for the universal benefit (especially of those, who are not born to ride in coaches) that intolerable nuisance of spouts and gutters might be strictly reformed, and the waters so conveyed by close and perpendicular pipes (where they cannot be avoided) or to drop onely from

above the Modillions, as from Italian roofs. That no pipes for conveyance of waters for domestique uses be deriv'd from the Heads through church yards, or like unclean places, without being well immur'd in plaster of Paris. That plain tyle may be only employ'd instead of pan tyle : unless we could be perswaded into the use of slate, which is both beautifull and light. That no Bay windows and uncomely jettings, nor even Balconies (unless made of iron) be for the future permitted. And that for the better expediting of this great design (worthy indeed of the greatest and best of Princes) store of all materials may be provided betimes (bricks and tyles especially) because all seasons are not fit for it : and that there be a diligent inspection to examine their goodness : but the greatest and almost only desiderate will be that of Timber, which peace and industry will quickly furnish. And when all these were prepar'd, and the Undertakers too as ready, if they be permitted to gratify their own phansies, without religiously intending to persue the Plan : and that his Majestie (who is best able to judge of it) over rule in this ; it may possibly become a new indeed, but a very ougly city, when all is done. Whereas, if they permit themselves to be govern'd in this, we are not yet to despair of seeing (after a few years) such a city to emerge out of these sad and ruinous heaps, as may dispute it with all the cities of the World ; fitter for commerce, apter for government, sweeter for health, more glorious for beauty ; and in summ for whatsoever could be desired to render it consummately perfect.

Facile est Inventis addere.

J. EVELYN.

## EDWIN ALFRED RICKARDS [F.].

Died at Bournemouth, 29th August 1920,  
aged forty-eight.

[Edwin Alfred Rickards, who was born in 1872, was articled in 1887 to Mr. R. J. Lovell, of 45, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. In the same year he entered the Royal Academy Schools and later studied at the Architectural Association. After the completion of his articles he assisted in the offices successively of Messrs. Dunn and Watson, Mr. Howard Ince, Mr. George Sherrin and Mr. Leonard Stokes, and studied and travelled in France, Italy, and Egypt. In 1897 he became associated in partnership with Mr. H. V. Lanchester and the late James Stewart, and with them carried out Cardiff Town Hall and Law Courts, Deptford Town Hall, and Hull Art School. Later works, in conjunction with Mr. Lanchester, were the Central Hall, Westminster, the Third Church of Christ Scientist, Curzon Street, Cold Overton Hall, and business premises for Colnaghi and Obach, Bond Street, and for Bovril, Ltd., Bunhill Row. In 1916 he volunteered for military service, was invalided home after three months in France, and continued on home service till he became seriously ill in April 1919. During this period he took an active part in the planning of the Motor Transport Works at Cippenham, Slough, prior to its being handed over to the Royal Engineers. He also prepared a striking design for the Imperial Canadian War Museum.

Mr. Rickards was elected Fellow of the Institute in 1906, his proposers being Messrs. Leonard Stokes,

John Belcher and Henry T. Hare. "I know Mr. Rickards to be an architect of very high ability," wrote Mr. Stokes on the proposal paper. He was a member of the Council for a term and served also on the Standing Committees for Art and Literature.

Characteristic examples of his pencil work are to be seen in the charming drawings illustrating his partner Mr. Lanchester's Paper "Town and Country: Some Aspects of Town Planning" [JOURNAL R.I.B.A., 20th February 1909]; also in his own Papers "The Art of the Monument," read before the Institute in May 1910 [*ibid.* 28th May 1910], and "The Architect and Civic Ornamentation," contributed to the Town Planning Conference, 1910 [TRANSACTIONS of the Conference, pp. 453-64]. He made numerous illustrations for his friend Arnold Bennett's books, *Paris Nights* (Hodder and Stoughton) and *From the Log of the Velsa* (Chatto and Windus). He also illustrated Mr. P. G. Konody's book *Through the Alps to the Apennines* published in 1909. In a Paper, "The Artistic Development of London," read before the Institute in February 1911 [JOURNAL R.I.B.A., 18th February 1911], he dealt with the possibilities of artistic development as applied to the externals in the centre and best known portions of London.]

The record of E. A. Rickards's professional career is even more inadequate than in most cases as an indication of his exceptional personality. It is indeed rather a commentary on the fact that it was only by a suppression of his most highly developed gifts that he could find a place in the existing régime where his genius could evolve a measure of expression. Like Alfred Stevens, for whose designs he had a profound admiration, the trammels of our present system of carrying out work were always felt to be a handicap, architecture being so rarely regarded as a desirable thing for its own sake, and apart from its aspect as gracing a structure owning utilitarian requirements as its primary purpose.

Rickards might have taken his place easily enough in the early days of the Renaissance, and it is hardly an overstatement to contend that in that congenial atmosphere his name would have come down to us as not the least among the splendid group of artists which gave renown to the Florence of the sixteenth century. He had the versatility and receptiveness that characterised them, a receptiveness quick to seize an idea, but only instantly to start on bringing it into harmony with his own method of expression. In the matter of versatility his keen appreciation of form and colour was well known to all his circle, and though, owing to the strenuous conditions of architectural practice in these days, especially for those not too favourably placed at the start, Rickards was not able to exercise these gifts to the fullest extent, he nevertheless did enough to prove that he might have taken a no less notable position as a sculptor or have developed into a painter of marked individuality. In his slighter sketches his sense of the beauty of

line was almost uncanny, a few rapid strokes giving a poise with vigour or grace, and if the mark was not hit at the first shot, there was no tinkering or correction, but a repetition of the same rapid movement with acute mental concentration on the variations required. Rickards's devotion to the art of his choice did not permit him to go very far in acquiring the technique of those allied to it, but it was none the less obvious that he possessed all the temperament and appreciation necessary to high achievement in any of these.

It is probable that circumstances influenced his first choice in the direction of architecture, and it was clearly only later that experience showed him that architecture carried a certain measure of bondage not always to his taste—or rather that architecture is so seldom in demand without limitations that do not make it any less an art, but make it somewhat less the type of art that he would have chosen as a medium for expression. Though he enjoyed all his work intensely if left to play with his ideas they generally took the form of ideal compositions of masses and sculpture conceived purely from the standpoint of emotional expression and not, as with most of us, starting from the basis of a building with a specific purpose. This conception of design did not prevent his bringing valuable ideas to bear on the problems that ordinarily present themselves: indeed a certain detachment from the usual attitude towards these made his handling of them more virile and productive. His appreciation of the dignity of architecture forbade his accepting any dodge or makeshift in overcoming a practical difficulty; the whole treatment had to be restudied until such difficulties disappeared and a solution was found that was the natural outcome of the requirement. It would be claiming too much to say that there was never a miscalculation in the methods taken to secure the desired effect, but, considering the individual character of his work, such mistakes were remarkably few, and were in more than one instance due to the difficulty in securing a full comprehension of his intention by the artists whose collaboration the design demanded.

Rickards throughout his life studied his art with absorbing interest, but such studies were not carried on by any obvious system, and the fact could only be recognised by his fertility in illustrating his suggestions by reference to buildings of various styles and ages. He possessed the faculty of noting only the factors that had a bearing on his own methods of design, and hence his knowledge sat lightly on him and his work preserved the intuitive character usual in the work of a genuine artist. Put in this form the impression conveyed yet lacks the force demanded in depicting his vivid personality: it would perhaps be nearer the mark to take the view that, after the first few years of his career, Rickards never deliberately or consciously studied, but that his exceptional sympathy with all branches of art and the quick reaction that beauty in every form

produced in him provided all the interest necessary to sustain the vivid and vital character of his own work.

Critical as he was of his own efforts, Rickards applied the same standard to that of his contemporaries, and while quick to appreciate buildings showing beauty of treatment or imaginative fire, he was not given to spare his strictures on the work in which he discerned neither. That his sympathies were in no way narrow or governed by his own technique will be realised when it is mentioned that he always spoke with delight of the work of J. F. Bentley and W. Flockhart. The work of the former so interested him that he remarked on several occasions, "One of these days I too will try a design in the Byzantine manner." It may be doubtful whether he would ever have done so, but now, alas! the question is determined and such a design will never see the light.

In the arts of painting and sculpture one felt that his opinions were quite exceptionally illuminating: he seemed to be able to overleap the obstacles due to technical inexperience in these and enter into the ideas prompting the work that interested him. How interested he could be in all artistic movements his friends must needs recognise for he was always eager to impart his ideas and provoke an active discussion on them, not only as regards the activities allied to architecture, but extending to music, the stage, and to all things depending on emotional expression. This exceptional range of interest was the outcome of an unusually developed mental activity, and this was the salient characteristic giving Rickards such an individual place in his circle of friends, supplemented possibly by a careless frankness as to his own sensations and experiences, when his sense of humour would impel him to relate any amusing happening regardless of whether his own part in it was to his advantage or otherwise. This aspect has been glanced at in his friend Arnold Bennett's stories, *Simon Fuge* and *The Regent*. It may be called a foible, and of trivial import, but one cannot think of him without remembering it: and after all, when there is such a prevalent practice of utilising speech to disguise thought, it is refreshing when we meet one whose whole attitude was diametrically opposed to such concealments.

Such frankness naturally provoked a return, and Rickards would often be found in the midst of an animated discussion on some question of life or art. Too keenly absorbed in his surroundings to devote a large proportion of his time to reading, he nevertheless contrived to extract from his books all that had a bearing on the subjects that interested him and to acquire a good general knowledge of most of the arts, more particularly those in which he desired to experiment. His desires in this direction outran the possibilities, but he did achieve a very individual and attractive technique in water colours, and his sense of form and line enabled him to make singularly

clever caricatures. His first attempt at etching showed that he might have been very successful in this craft, but other claims precluded a further pursuit of it.

It is impossible not to deplore the loss of one for whom many years of activity might have been anticipated: the deprivation is the greater in that his genius had not reached its culminating point but was up to the last still progressing and gaining strength. Not only in regard to his own efforts, but in the stimulus he gave to others do we feel the poorer through his having left us.

H. V. LANCHESTER [F.].

Professor C. H. Reilly [F.] writes in *The Builder* of 3rd September:

I saw Rickards at Southbourne on Tuesday last week, when he seemed to be recovering from a slight chill. The complaint he had contracted from exposure in France had been bravely fought, and the sort of victory, at any rate, that a long war brings seemed within his grasp. He was full of plans for the future, and had taken a house near London, to which he was moving next month. He was to meet his friends and take up his work again. It is unbelievable that he is now dead.

It is more than that. His loss is a disaster. He was the most vital man in architecture in his period. Any of those who are between forty and fifty, and have mixed at all in architectural affairs in London, must at some time or other have come under the influence of his extraordinarily vivid personality and have been provoked and stimulated thereby. Twenty-five years ago, fresh from the laurels of the Cardiff competition, he was the young man of achievement and renown whom all were anxious to know. He was the Augustus John of our profession, vigorous and disturbing. Those were the days of little orders and timid detail. Into such he came with his big-scale, full-blown baroque. He made monuments where others were designing wall patterns. He was inexhaustible in ideas, rich and profuse in the presentation of them. His drawings were as exciting as his personality. To meet him once or occasionally was to ensure a fierce argument. To know him at all intimately was to entertain a very deep affection for him. Like all thorough artists, there was something childlike and appealing in his nature, a call for sympathy and understanding, a keen desire to know how his work affected you which was very human and attractive.

All this was twenty years ago. In the interval I had met him occasionally, and occasionally corresponded with him. Last month I saw him almost daily. In spirit he had not altered at all, hardly in externals. He was still the same inexhaustible talker, with the same vivid interest in life, the same combative nature. He was hard at work on a series of sketches, among them ideas for a large fountain as a war memorial to be erected in front of the Cardiff Town Hall, for which a commission had been given to Sir Thomas Brock. He had again taken up water-colour drawing, and with a new interest. He had made discoveries, and could out-Walcot Walcott. Indeed, the sketches I saw were more on the plane of Brabazon. Some were for his forthcoming book, the great collection of his multitudinous drawings, which is about to be published. A wider public will then see what a versatile draughtsman he was. Few people at present realise, for instance, that the most delicate drawings of the Russian ballet, made to illustrate an article of

Mr. Arnold Bennett's in pre-war days, are by the same hand we all know in his vigorous architectural perspective.

As to his building work, it is familiar to us all. Some love it, some hate it, none can be indifferent. It is profitless in the case of so perfect a partnership as his to attempt an estimate of his share. He would be the last to desire it. But his drawings and his design—made while still in the Army—for the Imperial Canadian War Museum are proof of the peculiarly sculptural character of his work—the true essence of the baroque. When designing I should judge he saw his work in the solid more than most architects. His facility with perspective ensured this. His work always had a monumental quality and unity which his many sculptor friends appreciated. He was an architect other artists were glad to work with. His feeling for decoration was intense. Think of the rich quality of the façades of Cardiff and Deptford Town Halls, and the ornament on the lower portion of the Westminster building. There was an individual quality in his detail which few architects outside the great Italians have achieved. There is nothing sudden or unrelated in it, it is always expressive and harmonious. He had not the advantage of belonging to a group or school, yet his work had a consistency and character which is unmistakable. It lasted, too, over 25 years of a very full life. He enjoyed his work, as every creative artist must, up to the hilt. Last week he told me the happiest hours of his life—and he had tasted many pleasures, had travelled much, loved and understood music as few can—had been the hours spent with his partner in evolving the monumental schemes they have submitted in all the great competitions of our time. For these and much more we all are and must remain his debtors.

"J. B.," the well-known art critic, writing in the *Manchester Guardian* (3rd September), under the heading "A Modern Master of the Baroque," says:

"Rickards was one of the outstanding architects of his time, a brilliant draughtsman, an ingenious planner, and a bold and gallant experimenter. In him the *baroque* found perhaps its best exponent. Belcher ('with him,' as the lawyers say, Beresford Pite) began the modern expression of the cavalier spirit in architecture in that jewel of London City buildings, the Chartered Accountants' Hall in Moorgate Street. Rickards carried it further, but his tragedy was that the Fates doomed him to express it chiefly through two religious buildings, the Wesleyan Central Hall, Westminster, and the Christian Science Church in Curzon Street. The first, in which the accommodation demands were too great for the site, is an astonishing piece of honeycomb planning and brilliant skilful improvisation brought together under a graceful outline. But there is nothing in it that speaks of the 'church fugitive' of the Methodists that here made its material home. The Christian Science Church, too, was an ideal quite outside of his fluent, witty, and *spumanti* spirit. The harsh treatment of the columns without finesse and the deadness of surface suggested rather 'drawing-board designing' than the vital interested effort of a designer that knew his effects before he evolved them. But with all its defects it is one of the notable things in West London. Rickards reached his best in one of his less important works, the Art Gallery of Colnaghi and Obach in Bond Street. This is, I think, the best art dealer's gallery in Europe. Here he combined opulence and taste with a touch of refined swagger that perfectly expresses the Bond Street idea. Deptford Town Hall has qualities which

make it one of the outstanding things of its kind in this country. Cardiff Town Hall is less successful, but the Hull School of Art is an example for such edifices.

"It is ever to be regretted that the work which Rickards would have done so wonderfully never came his way. He would have given the modern picture palace a habitation imaginatively grandiose and expressive—curiously enough. Bernini's house in Rome is now a picture house—and as these buildings will be the most emphatic rhetoric of our street architecture, one would have been happy to have seen it in such strong and gallant hands. He was associated with Mr. Lanchester in most of his works."

### ROBERT SMITH DODS [A.].

By the death in Sydney, New South Wales, on 23rd July, of Robert Smith Dods, at the age of 52, architecture in Australia has suffered a serious loss. R. S. Dods was born in New Zealand, but by family ties, education, and residence may be claimed by Queensland. His professional education began in Edinburgh, in 1886, where he was fortunate in his opportunities. Then followed an industrious and stimulating period in London, where work was done in the War Office and as an assistant of Sir Aston Webb and others. Of this period of his life more might be written by Sir R. S. Lorimer and Messrs. J. Begg and W. Tapper, with whom a lifelong friendship remained.

These student years produced a skilful draughtsman and a ready and well-equipped designer with the constructional and business knowledge necessary for effective practice. There was also acquired an interest and skill in applied art (this was the day of the Arts and Crafts movement) that bore fruit later in help freely given to Australian students and craftsmen. Travel, too, there was in Europe and America, and in 1891 entry into the Royal Institute by the Associate examination. The young architect was an example of the good results that the older system of professional education could produce with an apt and willing student. In 1896 Mr. Dods returned to Australia, and in Brisbane the firm of Hall & Dods was formed, whereof the younger partner became responsible for the bulk of the designs. Architecture in Queensland at that time did not average a high quality; one or two architects were doing commendable work, the bulk was at best commonplace—cast iron and leaded glass were the principal manifestations of artistic aspirations. In this field the newcomer soon aroused public interest and criticism of his virile work, which to the local untutored eye was revolutionary. The popular criticism is still remembered, yet in a year or two most of the innovations became accepted elements, though the imitators rarely approached the skill of the originator. During seventeen years of a leading practice, much domestic, commercial, hospital and church work was done. As architect to the Diocese of Brisbane, Mr. Dods supervised the erection of the Cathedral of St. John, de-

signed by J. L. Pearson, R.A., and F. L. Pearson. He also designed a number of churches and allied buildings; his most important church was one for the Roman Catholic faith, that of St. Brigid, Brisbane. In 1913, Mr. Dods went to Sydney, as a wider field, and the firm of Spain, Cosh & Dods was constituted. In spite of war disturbance, important work was done, and Mr. Dods' principal contribution was a large office building, which he did not live to complete. When the end came, several commissions of interest and importance were in hand.

It was an unkind fate that robbed Australia of so good an architect so soon, but enough has been left—in spite of some major disappointments—to make it impossible to write a history of architecture in Australia without account of the work of R. S. Dods. A man of great vitality, though frequently of indifferent health, Mr. Dods had a strong personality, a swift apprehension, and a rapid judgment. He was a quick worker, with methods that, while despising unnecessary labour, spared no trouble to make good architecture. His frankness was occasionally disconcerting, but with a fairness and humour that disarmed resentment, he was respected by all ranks in the building industry and by his professional brethren. His independent spirit sometimes made him impatient with a client unwilling to accept the unfamiliar, but his charm of manner, sureness of ground, and ready wit usually overcame resistance. Well read and with a lively interest in affairs, of a generous spirit that helped many students and others, R. S. Dods did much for his country and his art.

A. E. BROOKS [*Licentiate*].

#### THE LATE DR. CONDER [*F.*] (*ante*, p. 459).

The dwindling band of those who, in one capacity or other, worked under Wm. Burges, A.R.A., has just suffered further diminution. Within the past few years we have lost from the company H. W. Lonsdale, R. Phené Spiers, Wm. Unsworth and W. G. B. Lewis amongst others; now it is Josiah Conder whom we must sadly count with the departed members.

By some good fortune I was directed to set up my drawing-board alongside Conder's in the Buckingham Street office where, as a newly-fledged assistant, I had been admitted in 1874. Thus it came about that in many ways he gave me a lead, both in the office and out of it. Together, of an evening, we drew from the Life at the Slade School and, in the adjacent courtyard, drilled in the ranks of The Artists' Rifles, being agreed that at least we ought to know how to serve—in case! The Franco-Prussian War had been a recent experience.

Conder was a student of architecture who wasted no energy in fancy-flights, but grimly stuck to whatever he had to do, soon proving himself a man who could be relied on to carry through whatever he had

deliberately undertaken; and his enviable capability for getting work done to time was only in keeping with his characteristic thoroughness. The working-out of his design for the Soane Medallion, which I was privileged to witness, afforded me an object-lesson in dogged persistency and self-reliance. He mastered his work. No wonder that his fine qualities were appreciated by our friends the Japanese.

WALTER MILLARD [*A.*].

## REVIEWS.

### THE SOANE MUSEUM.

*Description of the House and Museum on the North Side of Lincoln's Inn Fields, the Residence of Sir John Soane. With 56 photo illustrations, 7 plans, and incidental details. Edited from the original Description written by the Founder in 1835 by Arthur T. Bolton, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Curator of the Sir John Soane Museum. 8° Lond. 1920. English Eighteenth-Century Sculptures in Sir John Soane's Museum. By Arthur T. Bolton, Curator. With 21 illustrations. Soane Museum Publications, No. 7.] 2s. [Sold only at the Museum.]*

Soane is one of those architects, a constantly recurring type in history, who has probably suffered as much from the extravagant praises of his admirers as from the depreciation of hostile critics. At one time it was the fashion to regard him as the exponent of all that was false and theatrical in architecture. The pendulum has now swung to the other extreme and his reputation is in danger of being permanently damaged by a wave of unreasoning enthusiasm. To parody a cynicism attributed to Disraeli, it might be said of Soane's work that it contained much that was true and much that was original, but, unfortunately, that which was true was not original and that which was original was not true. By the end of the eighteenth century the great Classic tradition had become a little thin and attenuated, disturbing elements were at work, and one sometimes feels that Soane was a sort of architectural Canute, vainly striving to keep back the waves of the disintegrating forces.

There is one aspect of Sir John Soane that will appeal greatly to all modern architects, and that is when one views him as a collector. Soane was a mighty collector, both of the works of his contemporaries and that of the artists of the past. To-day everyone seems to be a collector—the shop of the antique dealer is to be found in almost every town of any size throughout the country—but we no longer collect, or to a very limited extent, and then chiefly confined to easel pictures, the work of contemporaries. Disgusted with the fatuities of the nineteenth century, we are seeking—perhaps a little feverishly—to establish a better standard of taste, to gather round us such a collection of beautiful objects that the next generation will possibly accept them as a matter of course, and will then, with eyes trained by the work of the older artists, give themselves to the joy of creative art.

Soane was a prince of collectors, and we of to-day

are under a great debt for the priceless examples of all kinds, of all dates, that he has left us. Our debt is hardly less to Mr. Arthur Bolton, the Curator of the Soane Museum, for the care and enthusiasm with which he has arranged these treasures and for the two very charming little guides, the small books that form the subject of this notice.

*The Description of the House and Museum* has been edited from the original "Description" written by the founder in 1835, of which only 150 copies were printed. The title page, which sets out Sir John's many qualifications and important appointments, also states that Soane was "Grand Superintendent of the Works of the United Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England," from which it would appear that the worthy knight was a speculative Mason as well as a practical one. This edition is enriched by an introduction of the Editor's giving an interesting account of Soane's life. Apparently even in those days of distinguished and wealthy clients it was not easy for a young architect to establish himself in practice. Writing of Soane's return from Italy at the instance of the Bishop of Derry (afterwards first Marquis of Bristol), Mr. Bolton states: "Though the promises held out to him were not realised, the young architect rapidly achieved a position for himself, and in five years was paying his expenses." If it took a man of Soane's brilliant record and magnificent introductions five years to establish himself and at the end find he was only paying his expenses, the young architects of to-day may take heart.

It would be impossible in such a short review as this to even mention a small proportion of the exhibits of the Museum, but the vases and frieze belonging to Robert Adam (and very beautiful vases they are), shown on pages 76 and 77, and the watch given by Queen Anne to Sir Christopher Wren, illustrated on page 101, should have an especial interest for all architects. In his Exordium Soane states: "One of the objects I had in view was to show, partly by graphic illustration, the union and close connection between painting, sculpture and architecture—music and poetry." No mean object this, even for the "Grand Superintendent of the Works of the United Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England."

*English Eighteenth-Century Sculptures in Sir John Soane's Museum* is also edited by Mr. Bolton, and, as the title sets forth, it illustrates the contemporary work of Soane's sculptor friends. Flaxman may be taken as the typical sculptor of Soane's time, and he is well represented in the Museum. The "Classic" still charms, but it has become a little pensive; it lacks the vigour and vitality of the true Classic. The book contains much interesting information as to the

history and lives of these late eighteenth-century sculptors, and is made doubly interesting by the illustrations which set it off. Two of the most interesting are the bust of Sir William Chambers (Plate IV.), by Sir Richard Westmacott, R.A., and the magnificent eagle from Carlton House (Plates XII. and XIII.).

STANLEY C. RAMSEY [F.].

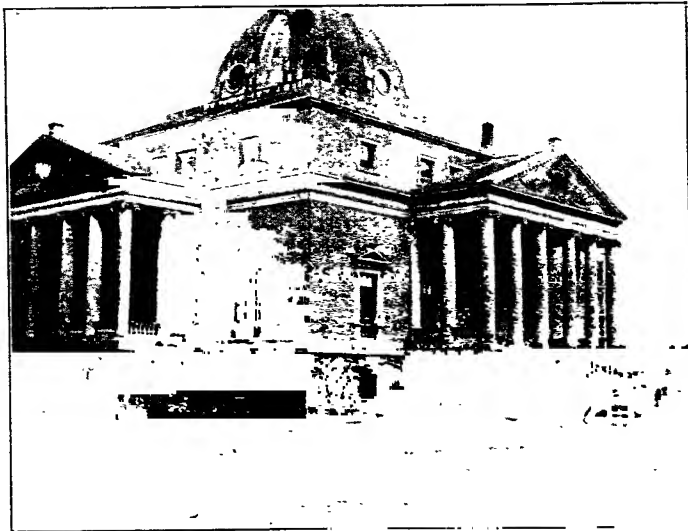
## CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Villa Capra.

9th September, 1920.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—The best of the imitations of Palladio's design\* has always appeared to me to be that of Mereworth Castle, in Kent, owned by Lord Falmouth. It was designed by Colin Campbell for the Earl of Westmoreland in 1748, and is reputed to have cost a very large sum of money. In plan and elevation it possesses some improvements on the original design, such as the



MEREWORTH CASTLE, KENT.

omission of the incongruous arches enclosing the ends of the porticoes, the omission of the steps on the side elevations, and three of the passages on the ground floor. The southern side, facing the park, contains a single gallery, 80 ft. long, which is a very pleasing feature.

Mereworth has a fireplace in each room, and the flues are cleverly carried up, inside the brick dome, to the central cupola.—Yours faithfully,

R. LANGTON COLE [F.].

\* "The Villa Palladiana, Vicenza." By F. R. Hiorns (JOURNAL R.I.B.A., August, 1920).



## THE BRITISH WAR MEMORIALS IN FRANCE.

By BEATRIX BRICE, in *The Times*, 2nd September, 1920.

I write for those whose men, dead in battle, now rest there where they gave their lives. I write for those who cannot go to France. Especially for those who for varying reasons opposed or were afraid of military cemeteries.

I have just seen the finished work at Forceville, and it is the most perfect, the noblest, the most classically beautiful memorial that any loving heart or any proud nation could desire to their heroes fallen in a foreign land.

Your own man has a wonderful grave, the nation has a wonderful monument.

Think first of your idea of a cemetery. At the best it is undistinguished: at the worst a confused and melancholy jumble. Think of a monument: you see an obelisk, a statue, some stone erection—there are many—and what special emotion do they rouse? You must read the inscription before you know whom or what they commemorate. But wherever the eye falls on one of these Acres of God men know at once, without question, that here soldiers of Britain laid down their lives.

Picture this strangely stirring place. A lawn enclosed of close clipped turf, banded across with line on line of flowers, and linked by these bands of flowers, uncrowded, at stately intervals stand in soldierly ranks the white headstones. And while they form as perfect, as orderly a whole as any regiment on parade, yet they do not shoulder each other. Every one is set apart in flowers, every one casts its shade upon a gracious space of green. Each one, so stern in outline, is most rich in surface, for the crest of the regiment stands out with bold and arresting distinction above the strongly incised names.

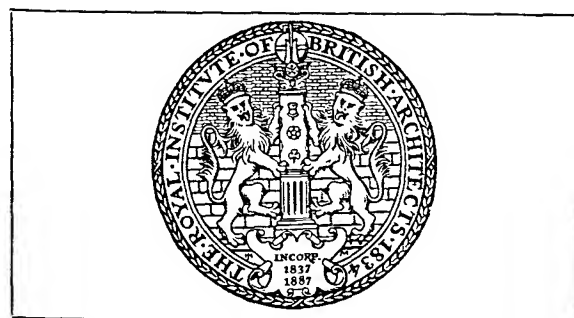
Beyond and behind them the stone of Remembrance—an Altar of Sacrifice—witnesses "Their name liveth for evermore," and through the midst a broad white pathway leads to the foot of the Cross, outstretched arms sheltering them and bearing the Sword.

It is the simplest place, it is the grandest place I ever saw. It is filled with an atmosphere that leaves you very humble that gives you wonderful thoughts.

These men took things simply, gave life simply, with no straining after glory, no thought beyond the job in hand, yet are they not only glorious, but a glorious part of a long and a great line.

Chivalry, knighthood, heroism, self-sacrifice from age to age are knit together here, breathing from the Cross, from the graven heraldry of our history in arms, from the names of these the flower of the manhood of our race.

From end to end that battle line of four years' suffering will be set at no great intervals with this sign, this seal, unmistakable and unique, of a region consecrated for ever to Britain by the valour of her sons



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 25th Sept. 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### Franco-British Conference on Architectural Education.

Arrangements are in progress for holding a joint conference in Paris for the purpose of discussing the need for revision of present methods of architectural education in order to give students a better practical training and more adequate equipment for the profession of architecture. The conference is being organised under the joint auspices of the R.I.B.A. and the Société des Architectes Diplômés par le Gouvernement. The British delegates will include representatives of the Institute, the Royal Academy Schools, the Scottish Architectural Schools, the A.A. School, the University of London, the London Ateliers, and the Board of Architectural Education. The French delegates will include representatives of the Institut de France, the Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts, and the chief architectural societies of France. Lieut.-Colonel P. Cart de Lafontaine, O.B.E. [A.], is Hon. Secretary of the Conference.

### Civic Survey Exhibition, Oct. 18—Nov. 13.

The arrangements for holding the Civic Survey Exhibition proposed in the last Report of the Architects' War Committee are in preparation, and full details will be published in the *JOURNAL* and professional press at an early date. The Exhibition will be held in the galleries of the Royal Institute during the four weeks, from Monday, 18th October, to Saturday, 13th November, 1920, and will be open free to the public daily from 10 to 5 (Saturdays 10 to 1). The exhibits will consist mainly of the maps and diagrams resulting from the war-time employment of architects in collecting and recording in diagrammatic form data relating to the various factors and conditions upon which depend the welfare of the inhabitants of the particular areas dealt with. These surveys were made by architects whose work had been brought to a standstill by the war, and were carried out, under the direction of the Civic Survey Joint Committee, in the areas of Greater London, South Lancashire (Liverpool and Manchester) and South Yorkshire (Leeds). A series of special conferences will be held during the Exhibition upon such matters as London Traffic, London Housing, Public Health (Preventive and Curative), Business Aspects of the



Civic Survey, Civic Survey from the Woman's point of view, Geology and the Civic Survey, the History and Archaeology of London, etc. An important exhibit will be the London Society's Development Plan of Greater London of the Future, and one of the conferences will be devoted to it.

#### Government of Ireland Bill, 1920.

The following letter has been addressed on behalf of the Council of the Institute to Sir Hamar Greenwood, Chief Secretary for Ireland :—

6th August, 1920

SIR.—The Royal Institute of British Architects has received a series of recommendations made by the Institution of Professional Civil Servants (Ireland), which it is understood are being embodied in a memorial to His Majesty's Government in connection with the above Bill.

The Council of this Institute have carefully considered the recommendations, and desire to bring to your notice the following points in support of the views expressed so far as they affect technical and professional Civil Servants.

1. Under the proposals contained in Clause 53 of the Bill it is felt that the assistance of a professional representative would be of considerable value to the Committee in their deliberations, and that such representative should be appointed by the Professional and Technical Division, which would have a special knowledge in making the selection.

2. The proposed Amendment to Clause 60 of the Bill to provide 4 weeks' notice of a proposed appointment in the *Gazette* appeals to the Council as a reasonable period.

3. With regard to the voluntary retirement of a Professional Civil Servant, it might be highly undesirable to enforce the retention of an Architect or Architectural assistant who is no longer in sympathy with the work upon which he is engaged.

4. Another point to which the Council attach considerable importance is the question of remuneration and pension of Professional Civil Servants. The years of training and study necessary to secure efficient service entails much monetary outlay and moreover delays the entry of an Architect into official life. Further, it sometimes happens that an Architect who has specialised in some particular branch of the profession has devoted years in acquiring the knowledge necessary to fill a specialised position: the remuneration offered should therefore be such as to induce highly qualified Architects to offer their services in the interests of the State.

It is earnestly hoped you will give these views your favourable consideration, which are submitted to assist you in your task of finding the best solution of the problem on which you are engaged.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN W. SIMPSON, *President R.I.B.A.*

#### Resolutions of the Pan-American Congress of Architects.

The Institute has received through the Foreign Office a copy of the Resolutions passed at the recent Pan-American Congress of Architects. The following is the full text :—

##### I. CITY IMPROVEMENTS.

1. That the Government and Municipal authorities of all American countries should legislate in regard to the adoption of uniform plans for towns and cities, the present system of "squares" to be followed only in exceptional cases: the laying out of parks and gardens, and the choice of plants, shrubs, etc.: the selection of suitable sites for public buildings and monuments: and the framing of regulations complementary to the above.

2. That a special course of "City Improvements" should be included in the curriculum of colleges and schools of architecture, and that free classes should be given by the architects' societies.

3. That leagues should be founded in every American city to arouse, direct and stimulate Government initiative.

4. That a "Pan-American City League" should be founded.

##### II. BUILDING MATERIALS.

That the Governments of American countries should direct the attention of their institutes and State laboratories to improving the method of production and exportation of building materials peculiar to each country, and that the use of such material should be encouraged in every way. That an account of such investigations should be published by an International Institute. That the Architects' Societies should form exhibitions of building materials and effect an interchange of such materials.

##### III. PROFESSION OF ARCHITECT.

That, in order to improve the aspect of towns and cities: to frame definite rules as to the conditions of dwelling houses, which influence to so great an extent the people's moral and physical well-being: to ensure the beauty, safety and hygiene of every kind of building: and generally to diffuse culture, the degree of Architect must be recognised by the State, and the duties of the profession, which is the only one in a position to deal with the problems under discussion, established by law.

##### IV. CHEAP DWELLING HOUSES.

That the Government and Municipal Authorities should be encouraged to co-operate in the construction of dwelling houses that shall be both cheap and hygienic. That the construction of detached houses in the neighbourhood of industrial and manufacturing centres should be encouraged, as also the erection of tenements in densely populated centres. That, before granting permission to build, the ground on which such houses are to be erected shall be supplied with drainage system, light and pavement. That the Municipalities and Departments concerned shall be required to modify the building regulations at present in force, adapting them to the economic needs of such buildings, in order to effect a saving in the execution of the works without leaving anything undone pertaining to the hygiene, safety and general aspect of such buildings. That attention should be drawn to the desirability of founding in each country a "National Bank for the building of cheap houses," to which employers, capitalists and wealthy landowners should contribute. That night-shelters for those unable to afford a cheap and decent lodging should be built.

#### V. PUBLIC CULTURE.

That to educate the public appreciation of architecture, exhibitions of applied arts should be held periodically. That the Authorities should form museums of casts of the works of famous sculptors and architects, and that free access to public buildings and monuments should be granted. That a yearly prize for the best conceived and executed building should be awarded, and that lectures on the subject should be given in the primary and secondary schools of each country.

#### VI. PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ARCHITECT.

That the Governments of American countries should frame laws defining the responsibility of the Architect, specifying clearly the responsibility of the Architect and that of the Contractor.

#### VII. ARCHITECTURAL TRAINING.

That, for any progress to be made in the architecture of American countries, special Schools or Colleges of Architecture should be founded in which the necessary artistic, technical and scientific training would be given.

#### VIII. "PAN-AMERICAN CENTRE."

That a "Pan-American Centre" should be formed, and that an interchange of professors and students of Architecture should be effected between the various schools in America, thus creating a real professional solidarity.

#### IX. BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

That the Municipal Authorities should be desired to study the modification of the system in force, with a view to increasing the tax on unoccupied sites. That all materials and machinery required for building purposes, imported from abroad, should be allowed to enter the country free of duty, and that the Transport Tariff should be revised, in order to reduce freight rates. That the Municipal Authorities should be desired to modify the present regulations respecting the hygiene and safety of dwelling houses, with a view to transforming workmen's tenements into flats. That the Public Authorities should be urged to fight the Trusts. That the training of competent workmen should be encouraged by the Governments in their Industrial Schools; and that private concerns founded for the exploitation of any industry necessary to the building trade should be encouraged. That an improvement in the mortgage system should be studied, special mention being made of the system in force in the Argentine Mortgage Bank. That the laws of the country and the Municipal regulations relative to building should be revised.

#### Stone for the Abbey.

The discussion in *The Times* on the above subject has included the following contribution from Mr. EDWIN J. SADDGROVE [F.] published on the 18th ult.:—

The letter of Professor W. R. Lethaby in yesterday's issue of *The Times* [JOURNAL R.I.B.A., August, pp. 454-55] is extremely interesting and contains sound and valuable advice for the community generally, and it is in addition a clear indication that at least some of our leading architects are shaking off the cloak of prejudice which has retarded for many years the preservation by artificial means of stone work in our historical and monumental fabrics. I have had possibly as large an experience as any other architect in this country in restoring and preserving stonework, so I think I can fairly claim to speak with some authority on the subject.

The Professor is quite right when he recommends that a preservative fluid should be applied to the stone when the building is erected, but I strongly disagree when he suggests that the preservative may be a "limewash." My own personal experience shows that to cloak the stone with anything in the nature of a thick material such as "limewash" or "cement slurry" does more harm to the stone than leaving it untouched. The proper thing to do is to use a colourless "solution" which should soak into the stone, its effect being to harden the face without either discolouring or concealing the natural grain of the stone. Such a solution is obtainable, and I have used it with marked success for many years. The danger of using a "slurry" or "distemper" is that in a comparatively short time the "slurry" deteriorates and allows the rain to get between it and the stone, retarding evaporation and accelerating decomposition. If stonework in London is periodically brushed down and treated with preservative as before described, it will withstand all the stone-destroying elements in our London atmosphere.

So much for the preservation of the stone. Now with regard to "restoration." I claim that where large stones are decayed even to the depth of several inches, there is no justification for destroying the remainder of the block by chopping it out in order to replace a new stone. In the first place, it is a slow process and very costly; secondly, the jarring of the mason's tools disturbs and loosens the joints of the fabric immediately adjoining; and, thirdly, you are destroying a great deal more of the ancient stone than there is any need to do. There is, in my opinion, a better way of doing it, which I have adopted for many years, and that is, to cut away all the decayed parts back to a clean face, and then build forward from that face with a composition which forms a chemical adhesion to the old stone, and which can be carved, moulded, and worked just the same as quarried stone, and which cannot be detected from it: but yet for many years there has been strong prejudice against it. In fact, I have had the old stone from an ancient fabric actually crushed up and reconstituted and used in the repairs, which I submit is a more justifiable way of carrying out restoration than inserting large quantities of new stone which have no connection whatsoever with the historical edifice.

In these times, when work of all kinds is so extremely costly, a system such as I have mentioned might be utilised to great advantage in the Abbey restoration, especially in those parts where the carved and pierced masonry is only partly decayed. Thousands of pounds could be saved in that way.

Mr. WM. WOODWARD [F.], in *The Times* of the 26th ult., points out that the durability of Portland stone depends upon the bed from which it is taken. The best bed is the "Whitbed," from which Mr. Woodward personally selected the stone used in building the Piccadilly Hotel. A matter of importance in all stone, says Mr. Woodward, is to see that it is laid upon its natural bed, and that it is exposed to the air for a little time before it is fixed, so as to relieve it of some of the moisture which is in it when first quarried. There are many stones which wear and weather well in the immediate locality of their quarries, but which rapidly deteriorate in London. Such are Bath stone, Painswick stone, and Caen stone, which should receive some preservative. Mr. Woodward himself has used

"Fluate" on Bath stone in building an hotel in the country.

Mr. H. D. PRITCHETT, *Licentiate*, of Darlington, writes :—

"After reading the interesting opinions in the JOURNAL of August with regard to the best stone to use in the restoration of Westminster Abbey it occurred to me that Leeds might be quoted. There are few towns in England that have a more smoky atmosphere than this big city or where the masonry buildings are blacker but where you find less decay. The Town Hall, opened in 1858, is, I think, as perfect as on the day it was finished, and so are all the other buildings built of the famous Park Spring stone. I cannot find in any works on construction whether the Town Hall is of stone from this quarry—if not from this one it is from some other noted quarry near Leeds. If these stones have stood the test of Leeds smoke they will, I think, stand that of London."

#### Conditions in the Building Trade : Improved Outlook.

It is announced that an agreement designed to expedite house building has now been reached as a result of the negotiations between the Government and the Building Re-settlement Committee of the Joint Industrial Council for the Building Trade. The Government have accordingly asked the Re-settlement Committee to approach the trade unions with a view to immediate action.

The Government's original proposals were printed in full in the last issue of the JOURNAL [pp. 452-53]. They included (1) an increase in the number of skilled men in the trade by the grading up of unskilled men, the training of ex-Service men, and the resumption of apprenticeships, extended to older men; (2) a system of payment by results; and (3) a guarantee against loss of wages for time lost on housing schemes through stress of weather. The Re-settlement Committee criticised the methods suggested, and definitely rejected the proposals for payment by results and for up-grading. They made counter-proposals for augmenting the supply of labour by the introduction of adult apprentices.

The Government thereupon formulated revised proposals for increasing the supply of labour (partly by admitting ex-Service men as apprentices up to the age of 26, for an apprenticeship of three years, their minimum wage beginning at 50 per cent. of the journey man's wage), and for increasing output.

After further negotiations, the Re-settlement Committee submitted a long memorandum detailing the modifications which they suggested in the Government plan. They regarded it as essential, to meet the Government's proposal to start adult apprentices at 50 per cent. of the standard rate, that employers should be given some guarantee in regard to continuity of contracts over the period covered by the indentures. While preference should be given to ex-Service men, the committee objected to making this a hard-and-fast condition, since if trainees for the skilled trades could be drawn from the ranks of the unskilled in these trades, a greater degree of immediate efficiency might

be expected than by employing men entirely unconnected with the building trade merely because they were ex-Service men. The committee agreed that housing schemes should have the first call on labour, and urged that the distribution of contracts is necessary in order that the greatest possible proportion of existing building labour shall be available for the purpose.

After explaining the objections to payment by results, the Committee submitted that an increased output per man would directly result from a suitable augmentation of the *personnel* of the trade, and by re-arrangement and improvement of existing working conditions. They said that practical men agreed that greater output is produced on jobs on which a full complement of workmen is employed. The concession of some payment in respect of time lost through stress of weather would attract back to the industry a large number of men who have migrated to other occupations.

The agreement which has been reached is based on the Government's proposals and the Committee's modifications indicated above. The arrangements for dealing with loss of wages through stress of weather will be settled between employers and operatives, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, in so far as the finance of housing schemes may be affected.

#### New Building Wage Claim.

*The Times* of the 28th ult. published the following from Mr. Arthur Keen, *Hon. Secretary R.I.B.A.* :—

"The Secretary of the London Master Builders' Association states that the cost of building has reached its highest limit, and that the industry cannot stand a further increase in wages. As far as can be judged from the architects' side of the matter this contention is correct: the building public are quite prepared to pay a high price, but in most cases they find themselves unable to accept the tenders that they receive, and the work falls through.

"In my own experience, the work that has been killed by high prices since, say, the date of the Armistice is very much greater in amount than that which has been carried out—probably five times as much—and I am constantly hearing from architects that their experience is similar to mine. Further, one knows of very many cases of people who wish to build but who take no steps at all because they realise that the cost is beyond their means. It seems obvious that ultimately men can only be paid what they earn, and the surest step towards increased wages is the increase of output. The work should either be paid for at piece-work rates, or the men should be graded according to their skill and capacity, so as to secure a constant incentive not only to industry, but also to skilful work. It is a strange thing that men of experience and outstanding skill are content to share a flat rate with those who cannot compare with them in actual capacity.

"At the present time there is the probability of a good deal of unemployment in the near future because the really important work has been abandoned or shelved but if the encouragement of a greatly increased output were offered to would-be employers there would be full employment for years to come."

### The Housing Problem in Germany.

The September issue of the *Garden Cities and Town Planning Magazine* has an interesting article, with illustrations, by Herr Bernhard Kampffmeyer, Chairman of the German Garden City Association, dealing with the Housing Problem in Germany since the war. There was a deficiency, he says, of more than a million dwellings, a great deficiency of craftsmen and labourers, and an enormous shortage of building material. To encourage building at the beginning of 1919 considerable credits were granted by the Government to private persons and public utility societies, the maximum per house amounting to M.18,000.

"It was soon seen, however (Herr Kampffmeyer says) that in consequence of the perpetual rise of building material and wages the grant was quite insufficient. It was based on the assumption that building costs were five times greater than before the war. In reality they became ten times higher. No private builders or societies of public utility with experience built at all. Only newly formed societies and private persons without experience started building, with the result that all would have come to bankruptcy if the Government had not increased the grant in proportion to the increased cost of building, making the average grant throughout Germany about M.40,000 for each house or lodging. And even then the rents of these houses had to be 100 per cent. more than pre-war rents. The time of building a house was extremely long for lack of building material and craftsmen. Building work could often not proceed for months, owing to delay in getting cement or timber, for example, or because not enough carpenters could be got. About 50,000 houses have been built from the spring of 1919 till the summer of 1920—that is as good as nothing in face of a deficiency of a million.

"For the year 1920, new Government grants were fixed under somewhat changed regulations. The grant is no longer based on the cubic content of the house but on the floor area, and is given only in respect of dwellings containing at most seventy square metres floor space, excepting staircase and passage. The maximum grant for the house or dwelling coming under these regulations is M.16,500, whilst the building costs are about M.80,000. This means that nobody—especially after the bad experiences of the past year—can build. These regulations seem to be the consequence of shortage of funds and of hopelessness in face of the general economic situation. Only in some towns (for example, Cologne), where the municipality has granted considerable credits for this purpose—increasing the amount per square metre of floor space to M.900 instead of M.240, and for the house to M.63,000 instead of M.16,500—building operations can be expected. Here this is done in expectation of a new start of economic development resulting from special circumstances. But in Germany as a whole the situation is quite hopeless.

"The effect of this state of things is general want of employment in the building trade. On July 1st, great demonstrations were organised throughout Germany by the building trade unions, by co-operative building societies, societies of public utility and tenants, to demand from the Government and municipalities more effective support for building, the socialisation of cement and lime industries, and of large building enterprises.

"Only in the mining districts can building operations be expected in the next few years. Here it is proposed to build within six years 500,000 houses and to settle a corresponding number of miners' families. This measure is needed to meet the demands of the Entente for coal and by the economic life of Germany itself. The cost of this housing work will amount to five milliards of marks.

"There may and must be also building to a large extent in the country for the interest of a more intensive cultivation of the soil, as we cannot afford to buy food abroad. But for lack of building material and other circumstances it is to be feared that this work will not go on so quickly as it is required.

"In addition to the difficulties of building there is the 'unrest of labour,' which is much greater in Germany than elsewhere and will require years to remedy. Those industries which have good prospects will remain in the towns and will prefer to work, if needed, in premises formerly used for war purposes or of ruined industries instead of investing the tenfold capital in new premises, and of leaving the town. Without decentralization of industry there can be no garden city movement."

### Research on Building Materials and Methods of Construction.

The Report of the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research for the year 1919-20 [H.M. Stationery Office, 1s. net] gives some particulars of the work to be undertaken by the Building (Materials and Construction) Research Board recently appointed to consider and direct the conduct of research on building materials and methods of construction. The Board consists of the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Major-General Sir Gerard Heath, Mr. G. W. Humphries, Chief-Engineer L.C.C., with representatives of the Ministry of Health and H.M. Office of Works. Mr. H. O. Weller, of the Indian Service of Engineers, has been lent by the Government of India and will act as Director of Building Research.

The new Board (says the Report, p. 59) will set up standards for structural materials at present unstandardised, will make a study of structural failures and of other problems suggested by the present world-wide housing difficulty, with a view to helping designers and constructors. It has already taken over charge of the research into earth materials going on at the London County Council School of Building, Brixton, and will probably extend this into a general study of chalk and the colloidal properties of clay. The supervision of the work on experimental cottages has also been transferred to it.

*Earth Materials.*—At present the work on earth materials can be grouped roughly as:—(i) clay research; (ii) chalk research; (iii) tests carried out for the experimental cottages, Amesbury. Of these groups the results obtained under (iii) were of more immediate value. They include analyses of Amesbury chalk and gravel, the strutting of cottage floors, and tests of certain types of built-up wooden floor-beams. The work done in groups (i) and (ii), although it has not yet reached any definite publishable result, has indicated the dimensions of the problems involved, and has suggested the lines on which this work should now be carried out by the Building Research Board.

*Experimental Cottages.*—The five cottages being erected for the Ministry of Agriculture at Amesbury are nearing completion. They represent experiments not only in various old and new methods of walling, to which popular attention is too often restricted, but also in all other items of cottage structure. There is hardly one item in any one of the cottages in which some modification of ordinary practice has not been made; and the nett result is a very valuable housing experiment, from which it is important that every possible lesson should be learned. A full report is being prepared by Mr. W. R. Jaggard, F.R.I.B.A., architectural consultant, and it is hoped to publish this shortly. The experiment has already proved useful to the Ministry of Agriculture and to private organisations whose representatives have visited the work in progress.

The Report states that the programme of researches carried out by the Building Materials Research Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Raymond Unwin [F.] has now been completed, and the report itself will shortly be issued. As the result of the Committee's investigations it has been shown generally that certain substitutes for timber could be safely adopted in neighbourhoods where supplies of necessary materials were available, and that in certain circumstances and with proper safeguards thin walls may be used for carrying comparatively light loadings such as those carried on the upper floors of cottages under the national housing schemes.

The investigation into the heat insulating properties of various wall materials carried out by Mr. A. H. Barker has yielded some interesting results. Tests on the porosity of building materials conducted at the National Physical Laboratory show that the leakage of air due to this cause is negligible in comparison with the percolation of air brought about by small cracks and fissures in the door and window fittings.

The research on stoves, ranges and cooking appliances has been continued by Mr. Barker at University College, London. In these tests, accurate determinations have been made of the efficiency of the various elements of the cooking stove. It has been shown that maximum efficiency is to some extent incompatible with convenience and ease of use in the various parts of a stove. On the results obtained, Mr. Barker has been able to produce a type of stove which has aimed at providing the greatest degree of convenience in use in addition to much greater efficiency than the types on the market at the present time. This stove, which can burn low grade and cheap fuels, consumes only some 30 to 50 per cent. of the amount of fuel necessary in some of the commercial ranges.

The results of the tests of different specimens of slag, coke breeze and clinker collected from various parts of the country, suggest that a far greater number of materials than current practice allows can safely be used as aggregates for concrete, provided reasonable care is taken in mixing the concrete and that a high class cement is used.

#### The Excavations at Carchemish.

Mr. C. Leonard Woolley gives in *The Times* the following description of the excavations at Carchemish recently carried out by the British Museum:—

At the beginning of the year the British Museum restarted at Jerablus, N. Syria, the excavations which five years of war had interrupted. General Gouraud, High Commissioner for Syria, gave his cordial support to the mission, and the French officers of the Jerablus garrison hastened to afford us every welcome; three hundred work-

men were engaged and digging was carried on until nearly the end of May without interruption. . . .

The programme we had laid down for ourselves, was the clearing and planning of the Hittite fortifications. The inner town of Carchemish, which lay at the foot of the citadel hill, was protected on the land side by great earth mounds with a wall running along them, and along the Euphrates and its tributary stream (which bounded the town on the north) by ramparts of masonry. Some sections of this river wall were well preserved and still retained their facing of polished limestone slabs 7 ft. high and anything up to 15 ft. long; the style of building, with its many angles and returns and with its intra-mural compartments, closely resembles certain Aegean examples, *e.g.*, the town wall of Phylacopi in Melos. At intervals along the wall there were towers or forts whose interiors were divided up into store-rooms or guard-chambers for the troops, and the gate-ways gave access to the inner town: these have been thoroughly cleared and show interesting variations of the Hittite gateway plan made known to us by the German excavations at Sinjuli.

Beyond the earth rampart there lay an outer town, defended in its turn by a double line of brick and stone walls provided with fortified gates corresponding to those of the internal defence: the walls were grievously ruined, but their line could be traced and their character established for the most part with tolerable certainty.

By the evidence of tombs and of objects found in connection with the several lines of fortification these could be assigned to the three periods which we have learned to distinguish in the history of Carchemish. The citadel was first surrounded with a ring wall in the early Hittite period when the town had scarcely outgrown the limits of the old neolithic settlement which had occupied and formed the mound. The walls and ramparts of the inner town belong to the middle Hittite period, which ended about 1200 B.C. with the disastrous overthrow of Carchemish by the Philistine and other invaders from the north-west. The outer town was built and fortified by the branch of the Hittite race, perhaps to be called the Mushki, who, after 1200 B.C., resettled the site and more than revived its old magnificence; and the whole town was finally destroyed and laid waste by Nebuchadnezzar in 604 B.C.

The scientific results obtained by the examination of the defences of the city would alone have amply repaid the work spent upon them, but there were not lacking besides the more dramatic discoveries such as at times reward the digger. In one of the wall forts was found a burial urn containing the cremated remains of some member of the Royal house, killed perhaps in one of the sieges which marked the latter days of Carchemish. The grave contained, amongst other treasures, a set of small ornaments in lapis lazuli and gold, representing gods, kings, and warriors, most delicately carved, which are a unique and precious example of the Hittite goldsmith's art. The well-preserved ruins of a large house in the outer town provided a rich collection of objects of great interest in themselves and particularly valuable in that they were dated to a year. We know that in 604 B.C. Pharaoh, the Necho of the Old Testament, was defeated by the Babylonians "by the river Euphrates in Carchemish." The house excavated by us this season bore eloquent witness to a desperate struggle. In the burnt ashes which lay thick over its floors, and more especially round every doorway, were masses of bronze and iron arrowheads, lance-points, and broken swords, showing how the defenders were driven

back from room to room. Four seal-impressions from papyrus documents, bearing the cartouche of Necho himself, identified the fight with that recorded by Jeremiah; a bronze shield covered with reliefs in Ionian style recalled the Greek mercenaries in Pharaoh's army on whose account war-spoils from Gaza were dedicated in the temple of Apollo at Branchidae; bronze figures of Isis and Osiris, inscribed alabaster bowls, etc., testified to that intimate connection with Egypt which had excited the suspicions of the town's Assyrian overlord, and Assyria itself was represented by a cuneiform tablet found lying on a threshold. The political intrigues of the Hittite decadence and the disaster which ensued from them are epitomised in this single site.

As yet only a small fraction of the town's area has been cleared, and even of the fortifications the inmost line has not been systematically excavated. Such work as we have done upon the citadel mound gives every reason to hope that there too important discoveries await the digger; within its walls were rich palaces and temples, containing perhaps those State archives which would throw so much light upon the history of the Near East, and upon the origins of our own civilisation. In the coming autumn, if conditions in Syria allow, the British Museum will resume work there, and the thorough examination of the citadel will be the main item of its programme.

#### Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union.

In connection with the Norwich Housing Exhibition, to be held at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, from 1st to 16th October, the Executive of the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union has arranged to display on the stage of the Assembly Hall (first floor), an exhibition of architectural and survey drawings, more particularly with a view to bringing before provincial students and others, good examples of professional draughtsmanship. Mr. Charles McLachlan [F.R.S.E.], Hon. General Secretary of the Union, writes that the executive cordially invites any members of the Institute resident in or near or visiting Norwich to call and inspect the exhibition.

The Union is now established in its own offices at 30, Sanctuary House, 33, Tothill Street, Westminster.

#### The Licentiates and Unification of the Profession.

At the meeting of Licentiates R.I.B.A. held at the Institute on the 17th inst., Mr. J. E. Yerbury in the Chair, it was unanimously resolved "That an organisation of Licentiates be formed to advance their interests and those of Architecture generally." A Committee consisting of the following members was appointed to draft rules and by-laws:—Messrs. J. E. Yerbury, H. Ascroft, H. R. Bird, G. Carter, A. J. Penty, S. Taylor (Burnley), F. R. Taylor, F. H. Wrench (Sheffield), A. C. Bunch (Winchester), H. E. Ayris (Charlisle), J. Stanley Paton (Reading), and H. M. Potter (Worthing). Mr. J. E. Yerbury was elected Chairman, Mr. Samuel G. Short Hon. Secretary, and Mr. A. H. Fagg Hon. Treasurer. The subscription was fixed at 5s. per annum. The meeting was a large and representative one, Licentiates attending from all parts of the country. A report of the proceedings is published in the current issue of the *Bullder*.

## THE EXAMINATIONS.

### The Intermediate.

The Intermediate Examination, qualifying for registration as Student R.I.B.A., was held in London from the 11th to the 18th June. Of the eleven candidates who presented themselves seven passed and four were relegated. The successful candidates, who are now duly registered Students, are as follows:—

CLARK: Robert Gibson [P. 1919], Fenay Gardens, Fenay Bridge, Huddersfield.  
JENSON: Alexander George [P. 1916], 20 Carpenter Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.  
JONES: Richard William Herbert [P. 1917], 483 Archway Road, Highgate, N.6.  
KNEWSTUBB: Francis William [P. 1916], "Brackenbar," Graham Street, Penrith.  
MESSENT: Claude John Wilson [P. 1918], 34 Mile End Road, Norwich.  
PENTON: Frederick William [P. 1919], 30 Tennyson Avenue, Scarborough.  
WOOD: Harry Wilson [P. 1914], 6 Grove Hill Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

### The Final and Special.

The Final and Special Examinations, qualifying for candidature as Associate R.I.B.A., were held in London from the 24th June to the 2nd July. Of the fifteen candidates admitted five passed and ten were relegated. The successful candidates are as follows:—

DALE: Frederic Charles Cowdron [Special], Architectural Association, 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1.  
FRANCIS: Bernard Thomas [S. 1915], 32 Willn Street, Upper Dale Road, Derby.  
ROUSE: Edward Henry [Special], Hankow, China.  
SHATTOCK: Lawrence Henry [S. 1913], 4 Crescent Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.  
SUTER: Michael Calvert [S. 1911], 15 Holland Road, Chodlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

### The Special War Examination.

The Special War Examination (for Students whose studies had been interrupted by the war) was held in London from the 5th to the 9th July. Of the fifty-seven candidates admitted forty-nine passed and eight were relegated. The successful candidates are as follows:—

BARNETT: Percy William, 64 Ellingham Road, Hornsey.  
BETTS: Albert William, 333 Nottingham Road, New Basford, Nottingham.  
BLADON: Charles Arthur, 17 Oxford Road, Liscard.  
BRAMWELL: James Stoneman, Royal Insurance Buildings, 9 North John Street, Liverpool.  
BRYETT: Augustus, 43 Galveston Road, East Putney.  
CATON: William Cooper, 6 Waterloo Street, Hove, Sussex.  
CHERRY: Stanley V., 65 The Wells Road, Nottingham.  
CLIFTON: Edward Noël, 7 East India Avenue, Leadenhall " " Street, E.C.3.  
CONNAL: Harold John, 55 Wilfred Street, Derby.  
DEMPTER: John Austin, c/o Hucklebridge, 37 Pandora Road, West Hampstead, N.W.6.  
DOLL: Mordaunt H. C., 5 Southampton Street, W.C.1.  
ELSWORTH: William, University School of Architecture, Liverpool.  
EMBERTON: Joseph, 39 Gloucester Gardens, W.2.  
EVANS: Eric Ewart, 30 Park Road South, Cloughton, Cheshire.



FEARN : John Laurence, Rose Cottage, Windermere, Westmoreland.

FORGIE : Alexander Garden, 33 Summerside Place, Leith.

FOWLER : Cyril William, 47 Avenue Road, Regent's Park.

FRITCHLEY : George Bowen, 12 Albert Road, Croydon.

GODFREY : Frederick William, 695 Fulham Road, S.W.6.

GOLDING : William Arthur, St. Albans Grove, Musgrave Road, Durban, Natal, S. Africa.

GREGORY : William John Henry, School of Architecture, The University, Liverpool.

HALFIDE : Frederic William, 48, Thrale Road, Streatham Park, S.W.16.

HALL : George Langley Desmond, 1 Victoria Street, S.W.1.

HAMMAN : William Henry, 62 Roxborough Road, Harrow.

HARRIS : Frank Chambers, c/o Frank T. Verity, Esq., 7 Sackville Street, W.1.

JONES : Robert David, Min-y-don, Both-y-gest, Portmadoc, N. Wales.

LAWS : Horace Herbert, 31 The Avenue, West Ealing.

LAWSON : Philip Hugh, 6 Shavington Avenue, Chester.

LEWIS : Horace Mer sham, The Pollards, Wokingham.

LOVEDAY : William Taylor, 28 Albert Street, Rugby.

LOW : Simpson, Woodlea, Dyce, Aberdeenshire.

MACFARLANE : George Gordon, 5 John Street, W.C.1.

MACINTOSH : William, 20 Willoughby Road, Hampstead.

MARR : Edmund Townley, c/o Sir John J. Burnet, 1 Montague Place, W.C.1.

MARTINDALE : Christopher James Fawcett, Castle Street, Carlisle.

NEWICK : Frederick Hubert, 15 Grange Terrace, Sunderland.

NORBURN : George Bertram Edward, Maltmans Hill House, E. Marden, Kent.

PEARCE : Oswald Duncan, Lynchmere Vicarage, Haslemere.

PETERS : Thomas James, 14 Hartington Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PITE : Robert William, 13 Elm Grove Road, Ealing, W.5.

REID : Herbert Henry, 16 Burnett Place, Aberdeen.

ROSS : William Alexander, 15 Felix Avenue, Crouch End.

RUDMAN : Walter, 7 Market Place, Chippenham, Wilts.

STEPHENS : Philomorus Edwin, 46 Chapel Street, Penzance.

VERGETTE : Robert George, Architectural Association, 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1.

WATSON : Harold, Newell Carr, Otley, Yorks.

WELSH : Stephen, 54 Yeoman Street, Forfar, N.B.

WHARF : Henry Francis, 106 Coltman Street, Hull.

WILSON : Percy, "Sparlands," Argyll Road, Southport.

### Lectures in the Museums.

The University of London Extension Lectures in the two great national museums are now being resumed.

At the British Museum Sir Banister Fletcher [F.] will commence a detailed study of the History of Architecture, dealing in the first year with Prehistoric, Egyptian, West Asiatic, Greek, Roman, Early Christian and Byzantine Architecture. The lectures will be held on Wednesday afternoons at 4.30, beginning 29th September.

At the Victoria and Albert Museum, Mr. Percival Gaskell will deliver a course on Florentine Art of the Renaissance on Thursday afternoons at 3 o'clock, beginning 30th September.

The lectures of both courses will be illustrated by the exhibits in the national collections. These courses form part of the scheme of study for the University Diploma in the History of Art which is designed for those interested in the historical study of Art and desire to pursue the subject in a systematic manner, and for others, such as art teachers and those employed in architects' offices, who would find a knowledge of the subject of use to them in their professional work, and to whom the diploma would be of value as affording evidence of such knowledge.

## COMPETITIONS.

### Improved Type of Public-House.

With a view to obtaining suggestions for improving the existing type of public-house, the Court of the Worshipful Company of Brewers offers premiums of £300, £150 and £50 for the best design for a Licensed House on a given site. Competitors must be Members or Licentiates R.I.B.A. The President has consented to act as assessor. Conditions and instructions may be obtained from the Secretary R.I.B.A., by written application, accompanied by a deposit of two guineas, which will be returned to all competitors submitting bona fide designs.

## NOTICES.

### Election of Members, 29th November 1920.

The following applications for election have been received. Notice of any objection or other communication respecting the candidates must be sent to the Secretary for submission to the Council prior to Monday 18th October:—

#### AS FELLOWS (9).

GREEN : THOMAS FRANK, P.A.S.I. [A. 1903], H.M. Office of Works, King Charles Street, S.W.1. 272 Willesden Lane, Cricklewood, N.W.2.

And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying examination:—

ARNOTT : JAMES ALEXANDER, 13 Young Street, Edinburgh; 76 Warrender Park Road, Edinburgh.

BOND : WILFRID, 11 Elmer Street, Grantham; The Cottage, Welby Gardens, Grantham.

HEWITT : STANLEY GOODISON, 2 Exchange Street East, Liverpool; 11 Park Road, West Kirby, Cheshire.

LORD : GEORGE WILFRID, Sudan Government Railways, Atbara, Sudan.

SLATER : WILLIAM FORD, Wedgwood Place, Burslem; 17 Knutton Road, Wolstanton, Staffs.

SMITH, WILLIAM CHARLES CLIFFORD, O.B.E., 40 Claven Street, Strand, W.C.; Dudley Lodge, Wallington.

THOMSON : DAVID, M.B.E., 13 Victoria Street, S.W.1.; The Gables, Cheam Common Road, Worcester Park.

TWIST : WALTER NORMAN, 83 Colmore Row, Birmingham; "Heathergate," Thornhill Rd., Streetly, Staffordshire.

#### AS ASSOCIATES.

\* The 21 Applicants marked \* have been the subject of special consideration by the Council and their names are put forward as special cases in accordance with recommendations Nos. 2, 3 and 4, passed at the Conference with Representatives of Allied Societies on the 19th January 1920 and unanimously approved by the Council on the 2nd February 1920.

† The names of the 23 Applicants marked † are published in accordance with recommendation No. 1 passed at the Conference with Representatives of Allied Societies on the 19th January 1920 and unanimously approved by the Council on the 2nd February 1920.

\* ASHTON : ARTHUR, P.A.S.I. [S. 1907], Clifton Chambers, Wood Street, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Lancs.

BAIN : VICTOR [S. 1912], 38 Albion Street, Leeds.

† BANKS : WILLIAM ARTHUR [S. 1911], Gatesgarth, 206 Doxey, Stafford.

† BATTY : WILLIAM ARNOLD, M.C. [S. 1910], Hillside, Ben Rhydding, Leeds.

BLOOMFIELD : FRANK FANSON [Special War Examination], 5 Hamilton Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

BONIFACE : CHARLEY FRANK [S. 1913], 10 St. Peter's Road, Petersfield, Hants.

\* BRACEWELL : ARTHUR [S. 1905], Willowbank, Keighley.

† BURFORD : JAMES [S. 1916], 16 Tregunter Road, South Kensington, W.10.



- †BUTTERWORTH: HAROLD M.A. [S. 1917], Somerset Buildings, 19 Brazennose Street, Manchester.
- \*CABLE: Professor ROBERT WILLIAM [S. 1909], School of Art, Bombay, India.
- †CAMPBELL: DUNCAN ALEXANDER [S. 1919], 51 North John Street, Liverpool.
- \*CHANTER: HORACE RAYMOND [S. 1908], 7 Whitehall Gardens, Acton Hill, W.3.
- †CHARLEWOOD: GEORGE EDWARD [S. 1910], 4 Mosley Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- †CLAYTON: GERALD RUPERT [S. 1914], 2 Oozehead Lane, Blackburn.
- \*CRUTHLEY: FREDERICK ERNEST [S. 1908], 10 Queen's Grove Road, Chingford, Essex.
- DAVIES: JOHN PERCIVAL WILKINS [S. 1913], Public Works Department, Delhi Province, Raising, India.
- †ELSTON: JAMES [S. 1910], Market Chambers, Earlestown, Lancs.
- \*FIRTH: JOSEPH PERCY [S. 1904], 12 Westfield Grove, Wakefield.
- GEORGE: BERNARD [S. 1919], 39 Warwick Road, Earl's Court, S.W.
- \*GIBBY: ERNEST WILLIAM [S. 1908], 13 Meyrick Road, Stafford.
- †GOSSLING: HUGH FOLEY [S. 1919], 15 Birchurst Road, Croydon.
- \*GREENWELL: CARLYLE [S. 1907], Killara, Sydney, New South Wales.
- \*HAGUE: HORACE VINCENT [S. 1909], 4 Cheapside, Derby.
- †HARDY: THOS. CHAS. [S. 1915], c/o Stanley & Scheibel, 1301 Wick Bldgs., Youngstown, Ohio, U.S.A.
- †HIGGS: HAROLD JOHN [S. 1910], Goring-on-Thames.
- \*HOOPER: CHARLES OWEN [S. 1909], c/o Messrs. Hemmings and Berkley, Hankow, China.
- †JAGHAN: WALTER [S. 1910], County Hall, Beverley.
- †JONES: WILLIAM HAROLD [*Special War Examination*], 24 Sunnyside Road, Hornsey Lane, N.19.
- JUPLING: ALFRED BRADSHAW BOSTON [S. 1919], 331 Beverley Road, Hull.
- KEESING: GORDON SAMUEL [S. 1911], A.M.P. Chambers, 89 Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
- \*KNOTT: ARTHUR JOHN [S. 1909], 80 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol.
- \*MCNICOL: JOHN, P.A.S.I. [S. 1907], 8 Park Terrace, Stockton-on-Tees.
- \*MAY: PERCY [S. 1905], 235 Devonshire Road, Honor Oak Park, S.E.23.
- \*MORGAN: HUGH TOWNSEND [S. 1906], 88 Gower Street, W.C.1.
- †MOSS: DONALD JOHN [S. 1912], 150 Belsize Road, Hampstead, N.W.6.
- PALMER: ARTHUR JAMES [S. 1913], Selwyn Road, Epsom, New Zealand.
- \*POOL: STANLEY [S. 1907], Oakleigh, Hartley Wintney.
- \*REW: NOEL ACKROYD [S. 1906], 219 High Street, Great Berkhamsted.
- RICKARD: STANLEY NOBLE [*Special War Examination*], Calington, Auburn Road, Granville, Sydney, N.S.W.
- †ROLLO: ROBERT LESLIE [S. 1918], 12 Murray Terrace, Ferryhill, Aberdeen.
- †SANDERS: THOMAS ANDREW [S. 1919], 5 Gloucester Road, Southampton.
- †SATCHELL: HUGH GLASVILLE [S. 1919], Charlbury, Castle Bar Road, Ealing, W.5.
- †SEABROOK: SAMUEL BROUGHTON [S. 1912], 12 Eastwood Road, South Woodford, N.E.
- \*SKINNER: THEODORE ARTHUR [S. 1908], 27 Orchard Street, Bristol.
- SMITH: WILLIAM JAMES [S. 1920], 5 Rhannan Road, Cathcart, Glasgow.
- \*SYMINGTON: HERBERT ANDREW [S. 1908], The Cottage, Narborough, Leicestershire.
- †THOMAS: ARTHUR PHILIP [S. 1910], Danygraig, Southern down, Bridgend, Glam.

- †THORPE: ALEXANDER [S. 1910], 6 Newton Road, Bayswater, W.
- \*UNSWORTH: GERALD [S. 1905], 16 Station Road, Petersfield.
- VENTERS: JOHN MACKIL [S. 1920], 3 Radnor Terrace, Sandyford, Glasgow.
- †WELCH: HERBERT ARCHIBALD [S. 1909], Headlands, Huddersfield, Yorks.
- \*WICKS: HERBERT GRAHAM, M.C. [S. 1907], 5 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham.
- †WILLS: TRESWITH LOYLRING [S. 1910], Hightown, near Liverpool.
- †WINBOURNE: GOODMAN GEORGE, P.A.S.I. [S. 1915], 13 Shiplake, Calvert Avenue, N.E.
- \*WOOD: CECIL WALTER [S. 1903], 90 Hereford Street, Christchurch, N.Z.

### False Death Announcement.

We are glad to be able to contradict the announcement made in the last issue of the death of Mr. William Eaton, A.R.I.B.A. The contradiction is made on the authority of Mr. Eaton himself, who is holding a prominent position in the office of the Ministry of Health Housing Commissioner at Cardiff, and is in the enjoyment of the best of health. The error was one of identity, the Institute having been notified of the death of an architect at Palmer's Green of the name of William Eaton, and it was erroneously assumed that he was the Associate of that name. The Secretary greatly regrets the annoyance Mr. Eaton has suffered by the announcement.

### Obituary.

The decease is announced of the following members:  
 THOMAS WM. ALDWINKLE, *Fellow*, elected 1887.  
 MELVILLE CHARLES MARION LEGGETT, *Licentiate*, of Kampala, Uganda.

A Firm of Architects in Shanghai require a fully qualified Architectural Assistant. Must be an A.R.I.B.A., and unmarried. Aged about 28 to 30. First-rate and rapid designer, also able to turn out clever and artistic pencil and or colour perspectives and sketches. Three years' agreement. Salary Taels 400 per month to £120 per month. First class passage. Applicants should enclose copies and da Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

A.R.I.B.A., restarting in practice with a large experience in factory and domestic work, is prepared to assist other architects in his own office. Address Box 169, Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

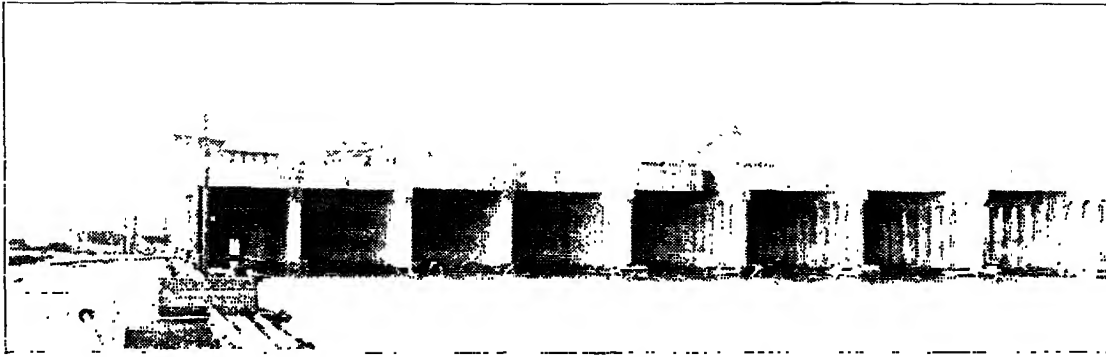
BOMBAY.—The Bombay Port Trust requires a good head draughtsman and chief clerk. Estimating, advising on proper accommodation and professional matters essential. talent for design and unmarried. Salary Rs.1,200, rising to Rs.1,500 per annum. Address Box 237, Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

RANGOON.—Two architectural assistants required for firm in Rangoon. Good prospects for suitable men. Salary Rs. 500, rising to Rs. 600. First-class passage paid. Address, Box 980, Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—Three Assistant Architects required for service in the Public Works Department. Candidates should have served articles with a well-known firm, and should have passed the R.I.B.A. Intermediate, or be eligible to sit for the R.I.B.A. Final. Period of engagement, 3 years. Salary, \$400 rising to \$450 a month, and 20 per cent. war bonus. After 3 years, further advances in salary up to \$600 and \$800 (present value of dollar 2s. 4d.). Address, Box 248, Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

COLOMBO.—Fully qualified Senior Architect's Assistant wanted. Requirements identical with those set out in Messrs. Stewardson and Spence's letter to their Shanghai appointment JOURNAL R.I.B.A. 31 July, pp. 434-35. Salary, Rs. 700 rising to Rs. 900 per month (present exchange value of rupee, 1s. 10d.). £100 paid towards passage. Address, Box 248, Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

A gentleman seeks for his daughter (aged 23) a situation in an Architect's office. Has had four years' experience in the War Office, mostly in drawing and tracing, is neat and accurate in her work, and has a taste for colour. Address, Box 229, Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.



GERMAN SUBMARINE SHELTERS AT BRUGES. GENERAL VIEW

## GERMAN WAR CONSTRUCTION : SUBMARINE SHELTERS AND ZEPPELIN SHEDS.

By H. F. MURRELL [A.].

**I**N a paper recently read before the Institute on the subject of War Constructions by the Office of Works, Sir Frank Baines insisted that all building structures, whether of brick, steel, or concrete, are the essential business and interest of the architect. The writer had the opportunity of inspecting, shortly after the Armistice, certain structures erected by the Germans in Belgium during the war period, which, on account of their scale and peculiar construction, may not be without interest to architects.

A very great deal might be written of the series of strong points forming the defensive lines named after Hindenburg and the Wagnerian heroes, but it is princi-

ally in the submarine and air bases constructed some distance behind the lines that the ingenuity and constructive thoroughness of the Teuton is seen. Of war activities, that which appealed to the German heart most strongly was the attack on England, whether by air or submarine; hence, it is not surprising to find thought and material lavished on structures connected with these methods of attack. Ostend, Bruges, and the Ostend-Zeebrugge Canal must have been the scene of feverish and fascinating activity during the German occupation, and the most interesting examples of submarine shelter are found in this region. The extraordinary strength of these constructions is a direct tribute to the efficiency and daring of our own Air Force. The simplest type of submarine shelter is that cantilevered over a quay wall, as shown in types A and B. It is difficult to believe that these gave any real protection to the submarine itself, as in type A

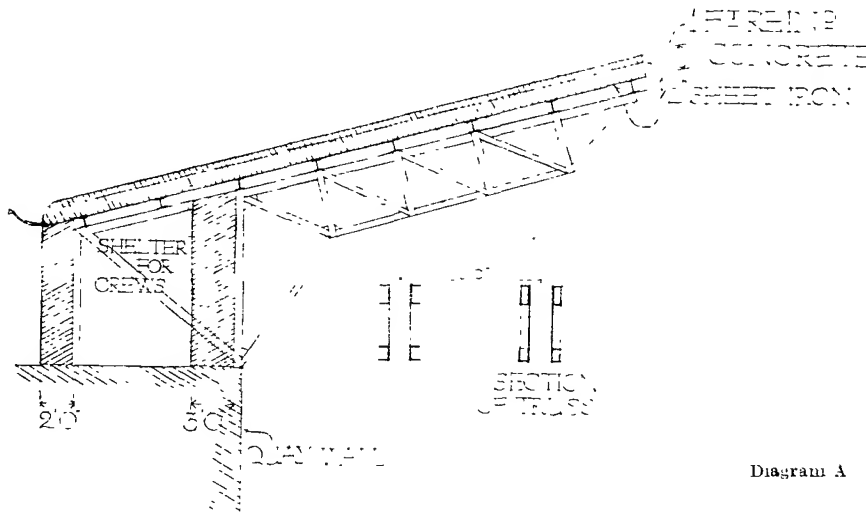


Diagram A

pally in the submarine and air bases constructed some distance behind the lines that the ingenuity and constructive thoroughness of the Teuton is seen. Of war activities, that which appealed to the German heart most strongly was the attack on England, whether by

the roof is of reinforced concrete not more than one foot thick, and in the other case, of close-spaced R.S.J.'s, about 18 inch centres, and two thicknesses of half-inch iron sheeting. Possibly this type was intended principally to help morale, rather shaken in the

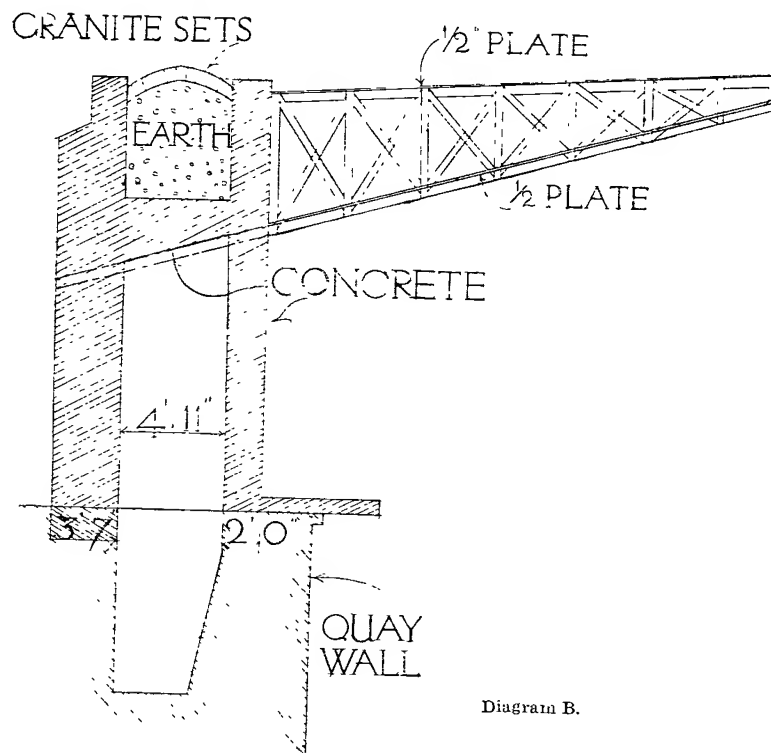


Diagram B.

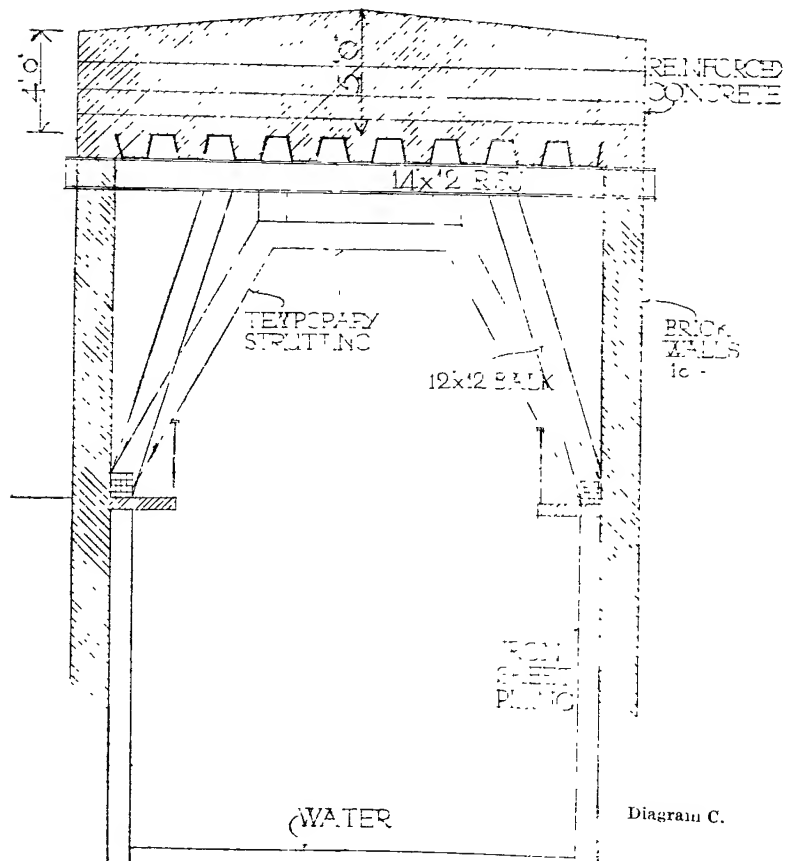
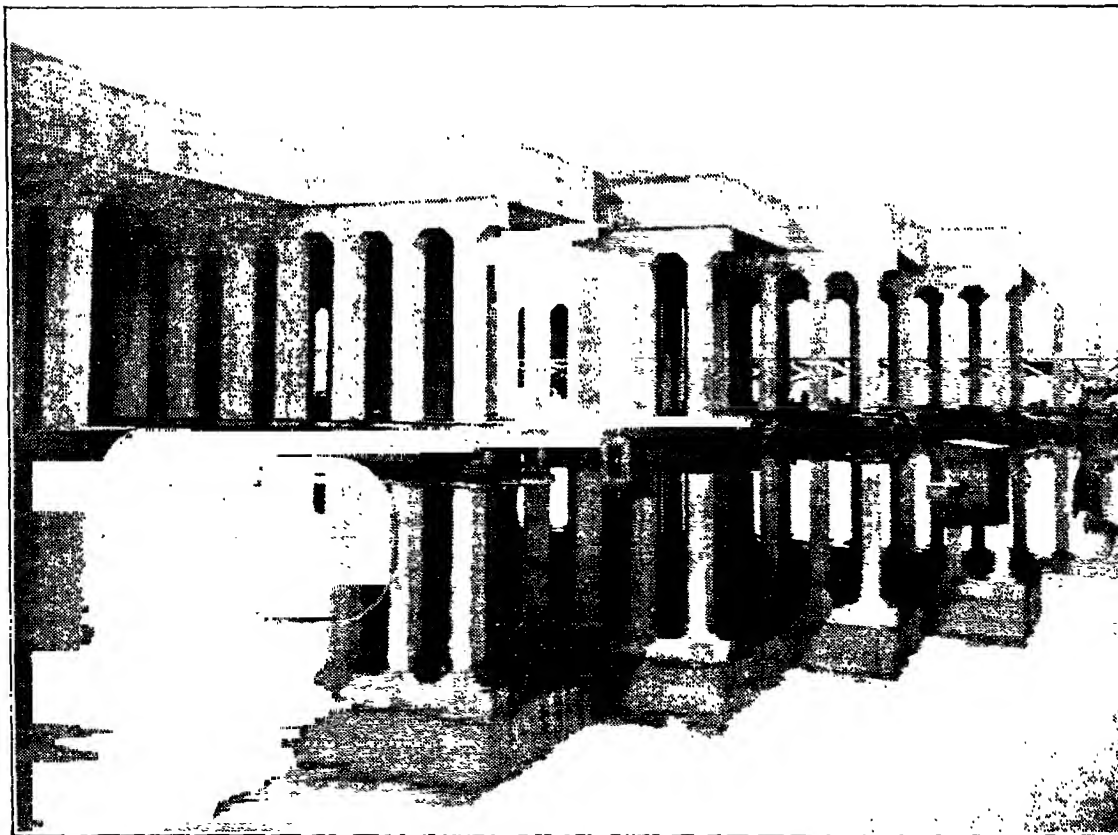
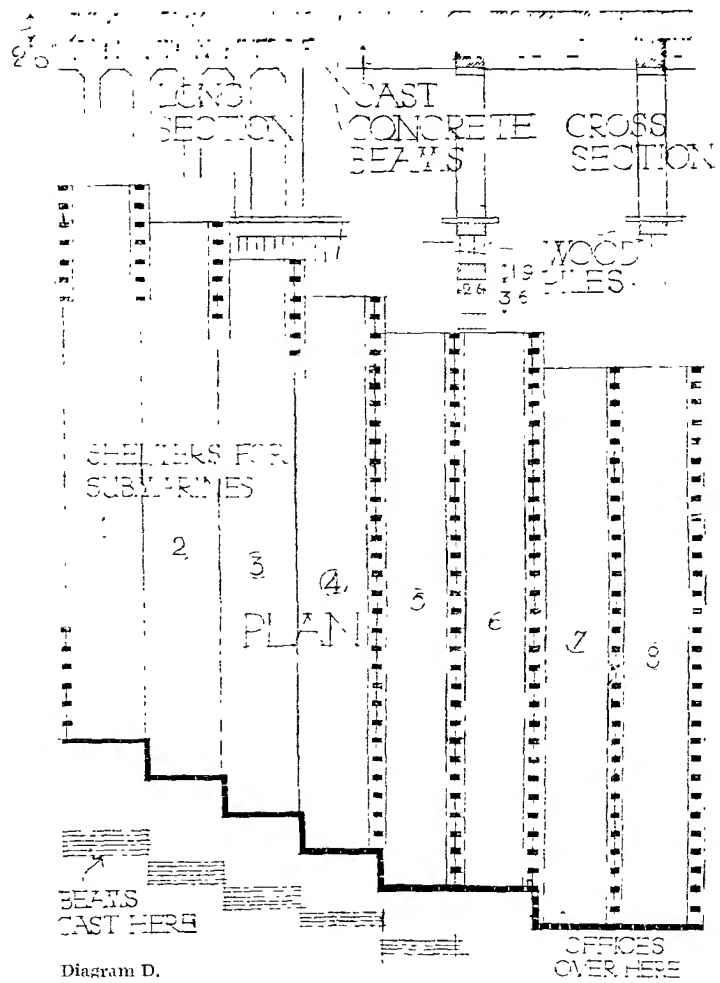


Diagram C.



GERMAN SUBMARINE SHELTER AT BRUGES, NEAR VIEW.

case of submarine crews, but the shelter trenches behind at least formed safe places for the crews during raids.

Type C shows a more efficient shelter, which seems to have been largely employed; there are examples somewhat similar at Ostend, Bruges, and on the Zeebrugge Canal. The lower portion has iron sheet piling; the roof of reinforced concrete, often five feet thick, is supported on trough girders carried on broad-flanged R.S.J.'s at about twelve feet centres, strutted by heavy raking timbers about twelve by twelve inches. The R.S.J.'s are carried on steel stanchions, the wall panels being filled in with fourteen inch or eighteen inch brickwork.

There is an interesting example at Bruges of such a roof having collapsed, but whether through defective centering, through a direct hit by a bomb, or through being blown up on the departure of the Germans, it is difficult to establish. By far the most elaborate shelter is the great eight-bay structure at Bruges (Diagram D). In its simple truthfulness of construction it has something of the greatness of a classic temple. It is difficult to believe that this structure was intended merely as a temporary war construction. If, as has been said, the occupation of Antwerp by a hostile power would be a loaded pistol levelled at the heart of England, then here was an eight-barrel weapon, ready to sink every food ship we could put upon the seas. Fortunately, it was but just completed when abandoned and sunken submarines were left lying at its entrance. The great block consists of eight shelters side by side, each approximately 30 feet by 250 feet, echeloned slightly on plan, probably with the idea of making the group less conspicuous from the air. The whole structure appears to have been built on piles with closely spaced concrete columns above. The roof was formed of coupled reinforced concrete beams, cast at the land end of each shelter, from whence they were raised, run along and dropped into position, the whole being covered with a slab of reinforced concrete about

two feet six inches deep. Offices were constructed on a first-floor at the land end of the block.

Perhaps the strongest buildings of all were those designed for the stores of submarine mines or possibly torpedoes. The roofs to these stores are of reinforced concrete, about seven feet thick, supported on closely spaced piers, the doors are of concrete, sliding on rails, with screen baffle walls inside; loading platforms and shelters over are all formed of reinforced concrete.

For making the enormous quantities of concrete required in all these structures, a large number of mixers of the familiar German pattern were employed. These were mounted on elevated platforms with long movable shoots to direct the concrete as required to various parts of the roofs. The whole of the wonderful Bruges submarine base was of fascinating interest, comprising every type of shelter, store, oil tank, floating dock and repair shop.

A visit shortly after its abandonment left, as outstanding impressions, that of the German determination to protect at any cost of labour and material the submarine vessel and personnel, considered so vital to the success of German arms, and of the dramatic change whereby such vast plant, stores and machinery had to be abandoned at the moment when much of the work was at the very point of completion.

Of even more daring and elaborate construction were the buildings designed to shelter Zeppelins. Doubtless considerable experimental knowledge had been gained in the design of these sheds in pre-war days at the great air bases at Friedrichshafen and elsewhere. The writer had the opportunity of examining two types of pre-war shed near Cologne when in occupation of our own R.A.F. These were of semi-permanent construction, one being some 120 feet in span, with roof principals of trussed girders at about 24' 0 centres. Another example is about 550 feet long and 140 feet span, the wall panels between trusses being filled in with fourteen inch brickwork. The great doors

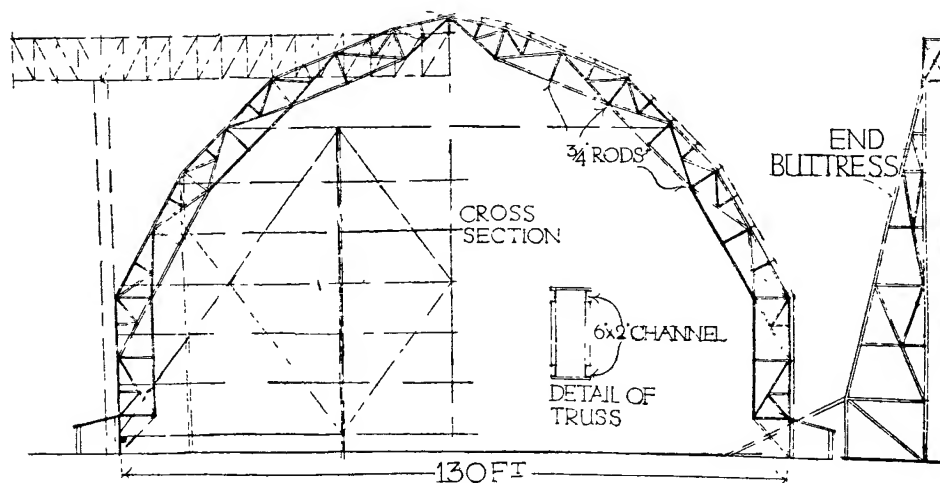


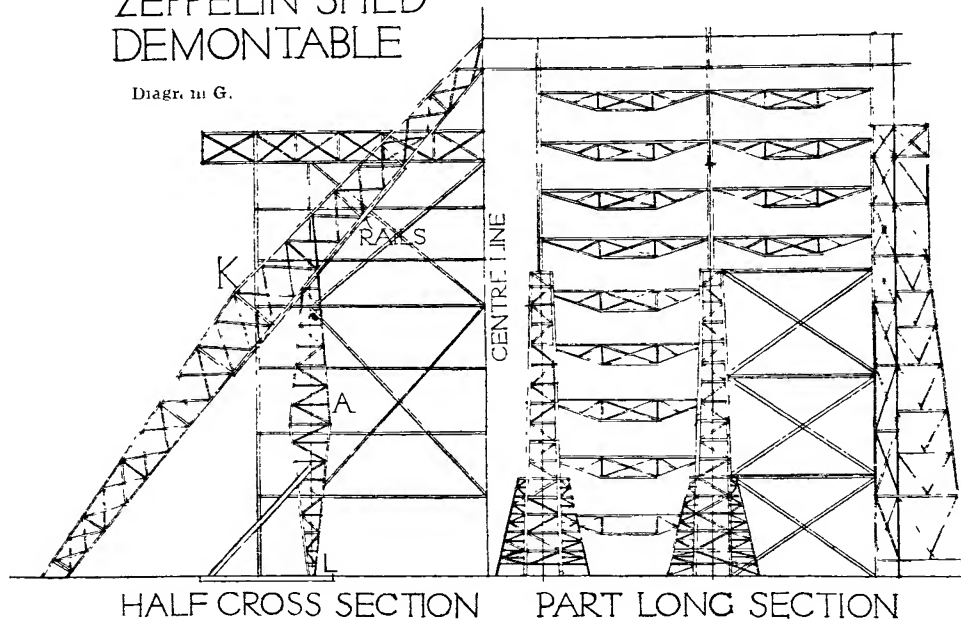
Diagram F—ZEPPELIN SHED

occupy the full width of the gable end, and were designed to fold back in two halves after the manner of

airmen. There was naturally no possibility of protecting such gigantic structures, but they may have

## ZEPPELIN SHED DEMONTABLE

Diagr. 111 G.

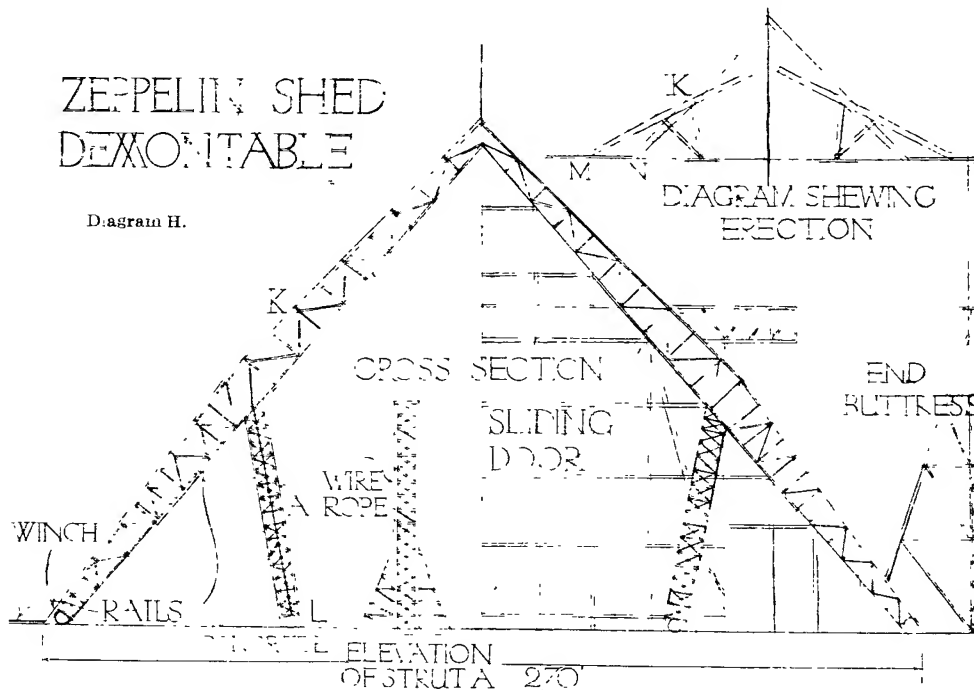


school sliding partitions. The whole installation was very complete, with gasometer, barracks for crew, etc.

been covered with camouflage netting. The span was about 130 feet, the length 450 feet, the height 70 feet,

## ZEPPELIN SHED DEMONTABLE

Diagram H.



Of rather similar construction was the great shelter (Diagram F) erected near Brussels during the German occupation. This is said to have replaced an earlier shed which, with its Zeppelin, was destroyed by our

the great roof trusses at about 15'0 centres, framed up of channel and angle sections, are almost semi-circles (actually ten-sided), and some ten feet at their deepest. The purlins are R.S.J.'s with wood rafters,

boarding and ruberoid. As in other types of shed, the great doors run on rails, and are worked by motors, being suspended from mighty lattice girders carried on built-up columns which are strutted with raking lattice buttresses taking the wind thrust (Diagram F). Along either side of the shed were lean-to sheds of brick used for workshops.

Of even more ingenious construction were some sheds near Namur. It might be imagined that the engineer who originated this type sought inspiration from his umbrella. These great structures are virtually umbrellas with the central stick omitted, the struts being hinged at their base and sliding on the main rib.

Diagrams G and H show variations of the treatment, but the constructional principle is the same. The immense lattice beams must have been assembled on the ground. At their foot is a winch apparatus worked apparently by handles, the whole girder being mounted on rails. Large concrete blocks were constructed at L, and the struts A with their fixed hinged foot laid out under beam K. At the commencement of the raising operation K would have its foot on rails at M (key diagram). Gradually the mighty arm would be raised, being pushed along rails from M to N, strut A conforming itself to the movement, its head sliding on the rails on the underside of K and supporting the latter throughout the operation. The types G and H vary considerably in detail: type H being heavier and apparently the earlier, G being almost entirely of light angle sections. The most striking difference between them is in the form of the struts: in H they are built-up columns about two feet square, and set in a raking position, whereas in G they are built up of light sections bowed on one side and raking out on the other. In both types these struts are themselves supported with curious anchor members attached to them by wire ropes.

In both sheds the end bays are strutted longitudinally internally, while externally the large triangular framed buttresses support the lattice girder carrying the doors. These doors run on rails similarly to those already described, and are framed up of light angle section forming a door four feet thick. The sheds are about 550 feet long, having an overall span of some 270 feet, and 125 feet high to the ridge. Viewed from a distance in outline they suggest the Pyramids, but, unlike the latter, are not of a construction to remain for long as memorials of an Imperial idea.

#### Books and Pamphlets Received.

- The Foundations of Classic Architecture.* By Herbert Langford Warren, A.M., late Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and Dean of the Faculty of Architecture of Harvard University. Illustrated from documents and original drawings. La 50 New York, 1919. 32s. net. [Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London.]
- The Great Fire of London in 1666.* By Walter George Bell, F.R.A.S. With 41 illustrations including Plans and Drawings, Reproductions of English and Foreign Prints and Photographs. La 50 Lond 1920. 25s. net. [John Lane, The Bodley Head.]
- Geometrical Drawing and its Practical Application.* By Alfred J. Holbrow, A.R.I.B.A., of the School of Architecture, Polytechnic, Regent Street 80. 1920. [George Gill, 13, Warwick Lane, L.C.]
- Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Forty-third Annual Report—and General Meeting. With a Paper by Mr. G. K. Chesterton.* 2s. [A. R. Powys, Secretary, 20, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.]

## REVIEWS.

### PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

*The 43rd Annual Report of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, with Papers by Mr. G. K. Chesterton. [A. R. Powys, Secretary, 20 Buckingham Street, Adelphi.]*

*The 43rd Annual Report of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings* is, like its predecessors in this long series, a very interesting and charming architectural and archaeological annual magazine. It contains half-a-dozen excellent photographs of cottages, town halls, and churches, and in this way alone the forty-three volumes are a valuable record of our heritage from the past. It contains also a reproduction of an admirable drawing by Mr. Handslip Fletcher, of St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, one of the threatened City churches, and a photograph of the riverside at Hammersmith, about which some anxiety is felt in view of reconstruction proposals which have been before the Hammersmith Council.

There is also a report of the annual meeting, with a witty and amusing speech by Mr. G. K. Chesterton, who spoke as an outsider, but with much appreciation of the principles that the society has upheld for half a century. Mr. Chesterton directed his remarks especially to the subject of ancient cottages, which it is the fashion to condemn on the grounds of health and convenience: and it is because he spoke as an outsider, if indeed he rightly so labelled himself, that such remarks as the following have especial value:—"The first thing to remember is that these human houses were built by human beings as intelligent, and, generally speaking, very much more free and independent than the people of the modern industrial society, and that they were built as part of a certain human life, the whole of which has to be taken into consideration, even if it has to some extent, and most unfortunately, faded from our civilisation." And again: "These things should be approached with a certain imaginative caution, and especially we must remember the whole mode of life of the people using these cottages. If they appear too small, they were meant for men who lived under the sky: if they are too warm, they were meant for men frozen to the bone." And again, speaking as before of ancient cottages, "The uneducated on the one hand and the educated on the other are on their side, and it is only the half-educated who always want to destroy them. . . . It is almost invariably found that the intermediate state between culture and ignorance is wrong."

The report was presented by the chairman, Mr. Thackeray Turner, who became secretary of the society some thirty-seven years ago, and who has only recently retired and given place to his admirable successor, Mr. A. R. Powys. When he became secretary, Mr. Turner said, almost every clergyman and every architect was dead against them; at the present time architects, clergymen, and mayors and corporations come and ask their help. There can be no better proof of the wisdom and knowledge with which the



educational work of the society has been conducted, no better disproof of the charges even now occasionally repeated that the society has not shown full consideration for other points of view in their patient propagation of their now widely and almost universally accepted principles.

A list is given of cases which have come before the society during the past year. The number of such cases exceeds two hundred, and among them appear places as far off as Cairo and Jerusalem.

Very interesting particulars of some of these cases are given. They include a report of the use of Messrs. Dreyfus' Tabary cement in the repair of decayed masonry, with some valuable remarks on the methods with which it should and should not be used; and of a case in which the interior walls of a church which had been "skinned" in an ill-advised restoration of the eighties have now been replastered.

The question of the threatened City churches is mentioned, not without due consideration of the financial aspect from the point of view of the Diocese of London.

The society is justified in congratulating itself on the great success of its past efforts and in looking forward to the future with hope and confidence, for it enjoys now in great measure the confidence of the community. It is to be hoped that in any future measures that may be contemplated for the preservation of ancient monuments and buildings, whether by the Church or by the community, the accumulated wisdom and experience of this society will find its due place and its due share, which ought to be a large one.

ARTHUR S. DIXON [F.].

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### Mr. Hambidge's Discoveries.

*To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—*

SIR,—Mr. Cloudesley Brereton's letter in the September number of the JOURNAL is good reading. Not only interesting to architects as coming from one experienced in the technique of another art, it is a corrective to much that has been written about Mr. Hambidge's aims and point of view. Mr. Hambidge is first and foremost an artist. Previous criticism had practically ignored that fact. His so-called "Mathematics" is a very simple affair; he says himself that there is very little in it that cannot be found in the 10th and 13th books of Euclid. He has been regarded by many, perhaps the majority, as an extremist, a mere theorist, a crank: it is the fate of the prophet.

In Greek architecture we seem to feel the presence of the geometrician, the man who sets out by rule. We should expect no less from a period contemporary with Plato and Aristotle. The forms employed have constituted a canon which has never been questioned. Sculpture, pottery and bronze craftsmanship show a serenity, a mastery of handling, a perfect equipoise between convention and nature which has been the

admiration of the world. These are truisms, but no satisfactory explanation has been given. For the most part we are content to accept the work as the product of a highly critical and vital age, or of exceptionally gifted schools of craftsmen. System, at least in the architecture, is admitted, however, in certain quarters. Pliny discourses so much about measurements that he may, after all, be broadly in the right? So, apparently, thinks Professor Lethaby, who seems now to accept a system of measurement the basis of which is the Greek foot. But how far can such a system carry us with sculpture and the accessory arts?

The marvellous schools of craftsmanship that carried on the lighted torch in the Middle Ages must have had a tradition that in its sureness resembled that of the Greek: in all probability a something was handed on. The output of the thirteenth century A.D. cannot be explained, but we seem to get nearer to schools and masters in the crafts, to a discipline of work. Even in the Renaissance the work of outstanding men was deeply founded on tradition. The schools of Ravenna and Rome were the precursors of the super-classicism of Brunelleschi and Bramante; but in much that is left to us of the work of the great questioning spirit Leonardo we have evidence of a searching after something more that had been lost altogether.

How much we are without any communal art expression at the present day is known to all. The torch of traditional work is quenched except for a feeble flicker here and there in the country districts, as in the agricultural arts of the wheelwright, the gate-maker and the smith. Yet the education of the architect is admittedly on a sounder basis than it has been for a long time, though it lacks a common language in the teaching of design. Most architects have some kind of system in their work, but it remains spasmodic and individual. The work of James Mitchell Whitelaw certainly deserves mention for the frankly explanatory nature of its structure, and he might have gone far if he had lived.

And now comes Mr. Hambidge with his theory of commensurable areas bounded by incommensurable lines. He claims that this theory, in various manifestations, enabled the Greeks to set out, even to comparative intricacies, their greatest works in architecture, sculpture, and the accessory arts. He claims also that his theory can be applied by the modern art worker in all aspects of design and technique. These are great claims and, if substantiated, might justify Mr. Cloudesley Brereton's belief that Mr. Hambidge "has liberated a vital sap that will not cease to circulate till it has mounted to the topmost branches of human activity."

Let us consider for a moment what Mr. Hambidge has already achieved, so far as the writer has been able to judge. He has examined and carefully measured many hundreds of examples of the best Greek pottery and bronze work and several human skeletons: he is

convinced that his theory governs the structural principles involved in these just as it is evident in the growth of natural objects, such as the sun-flower. He has prepared a ground plan of the Parthenon and has applied his theory to it with success. Certain examples of Greek sculpture have also been tested in the same manner and with, apparently, the same results. In regard to modern work, he has secured sympathetic appreciation, if not a following, from a band of American architects, painters and sculptors, of whom Mr. John Bellows is certainly known here as a lithographer and etcher.\* He has published a book on Greek vases,† and two or more numbers of a serial called "The Diagonal" which give a general exposition of the theory.

The whole matter centres on the possibility of applying the theory to the designing processes and technique of the modern artist and craftsman. The measurement and graphic analysis of Greek vases is no doubt excellent and admirable as a means to an end, but architects in this country will certainly want to see the matter worked out more thoroughly in its relation to Greek building structure. If this can be achieved satisfactorily, a great step will have been gained. The application of the theory to modern industrial art and the precise amount of influence it has already exercised on the work of modern American artists will also have to be made more clearly demonstrable. The writer believes that Mr. Hambidge may be able to make good on these lines, though he is not perhaps the best exponent of his own ideas. At any rate, it seems most desirable that he should have a fair hearing from architects in this country. The Directors of our two greatest museums have shown a sympathetic attitude, and one of them was present at both the Institute and Art Workers' Guild meetings. Let us keep an open mind, therefore, and encourage the able and enthusiastic exponent of this theory which may be such an old theory, realising that although we may be, through stress of circumstances, chiefly concerned with erecting our own individual pyramids one man high (to make use of Mr. Lethaby's phrase), we should strengthen the hands of all those who are trying to elucidate the great principles on which our Art is based.

THEODORE FYFE [F.].

#### Proportions in Design.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR,—May I say a word on behalf of those humbler examples of surd proportions to be found, perhaps, upon a tile or a bit of floorcloth, wayside flowers, so to speak, that are not unnaturally passed over for the exotic or "dynamic" specimens of the genus. Yet in their simple patterns, compounded generally of the square and circle, these proportions exist. A

circle surrounding a square sets up a ratio of 1 to  $\sqrt{2}$  between the side of the square, and the diameter of the circle and any rectangular development of pattern will probably partake of this ratio.

Or let a circle surround a Greek cross, and the ratio of 1 to  $\sqrt{5}$  will be established. Again, the span of a semicircle and the span of a quadrant are in  $\sqrt{2}$  relation, and with these a proportion of this kind is most readily set up. A child with a pair of compasses who amuses himself by pattern-making will evolve many proportions. This is design. To establish them by measurement of areas may be design also, but the further the *de facto* evidence of such design has been pushed the more it appears, to a designer at least, to have confused the essential and constructive with the non-essential and opportune. And the same with regard to the interposition of natural law. We know that the vibration of a fiddle string is conditioned by the square root of its tension, but it is not to be supposed that Paganini was assisted by his possible knowledge of the fact. The surd, a quantity that cannot be reduced to finite expression, has always exercised a lure, and provoked Sir Thomas More's warning against "the ceremonies of Idolatrie and Magic that are full of non-significant and surd quantities." It is surely an irony of fate that a lost secret when disclosed should be open to this ancient prejudice.

C. J. TAIT [F.].

#### School of Architecture and Civic Design, Cardiff.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR,—We desire to draw the attention of your readers to the important step lately taken by the Cardiff Education Authorities in establishing a new School of Architecture and Civic Design at the Technical College. This step marks a distinct forward move in architectural education in Wales, and parents and others who are considering the best method of obtaining a thorough technical training for our future architects and civic designers will do well to consider the opportunities which Cardiff now offers.

Up to quite recent times, the usual method of training was to article a pupil to a firm of practising architects. Although this was successful in cases where the ability of the student was marked and the principals were able and willing to impart knowledge, in the majority of cases the method was far from successful. The knowledge which the student was able to acquire in office hours through his own initiative and by the efforts of seniors was usually amplified by attendance at evening classes. The disadvantage of the latter, however good the classes may have been in themselves, was that the pupil after a normal day's work in the office was not physically fresh enough to receive the full benefit of the classes.

Under the new five years' scheme of architectural education at Cardiff these disadvantages will not arise. The student will be taken through a carefully

\* See the fine etching (or lithograph) of the execution of Edith Cavell, exhibited at the Leicester Galleries in the late autumn of 1918, when Mr. Hambidge states is designed according to his theory.

† *Quadrant Symposium: The Greek Vase* by Jay Hambidge (Yale University Press).

prepared and graded course of study in the day-time, dealing with all branches of his profession. The theoretical and academic work will be amplified by practical demonstrations of buildings in course of erection, measured old work, historical research, and so on. Towards the end of his five years' course the student will spend part of his time in an architect's office, to apply in practice the knowledge he has acquired at College. The Cardiff Technical College have been fortunate in securing as head of the new department Mr. W. S. Purchon, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., who has had twelve years' experience of similar work at Sheffield University. He is a Member of the Board of Architectural Education of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and this Board has already signalled its approval of the new school by giving to it full recognition, which will carry with it for the successful student exemption from most of the Institute's examinations.

Great as are the opportunities thus opened up to those who have lately entered or who contemplate entering the architectural and town-planning professions, we feel that from the point of view of the public, particularly of those who desire to cultivate the appreciation of architecture and civic dignity, the new school is full of possibilities. Other colleges outside Wales have established schools of architecture within recent years, and the fact that the Principality is late in adopting the same course—possibly owing to the lack of public appreciation of its value to the citizen—has, at the same time, given us the opportunity of embodying the best of the educational experience from elsewhere in this new venture.

We would particularly appeal to architects with pupils, to headmasters of secondary schools, and to the advisers of youth generally, to bear in mind the facilities which are offered by the School of Architecture at the Cardiff Technical College.—We are, Sir, Yours faithfully,

PLYMOUTH.

GEORGE F. FORSDIKE

(*Lord Mayor of Cardiff*).

W. EVANS HOYLE

(*Director, National Museum of Wales*).

WILLIAM JENKINS

(*Chairman, Glamorgan County Council*).

EDGAR JONES

(*Headmaster, Barmouth County School*).

IVOR P. JONES

(*President, S. Wales Institute of Architects*).

T. ALWYN LLOYD

(*Architect, Welsh Town-planning and Housing Trust*).

ALFRED MOND

(*M.P., First Commissioner of H.M. Works*).

GILBERT NORWOOD

(*Professor of Greek, University College, Cardiff*).

W. H. RENWICK

(*Member Court of Governors National Museum of Wales*).

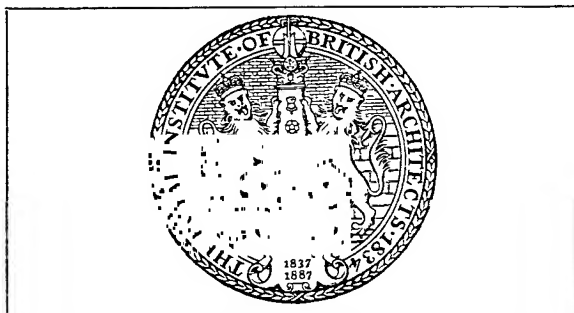
WILLIAM SEAGER, M.P.

(*Chairman, S. Wales Regional Survey, Ministry of Health*).

D. LLEUFER THOMAS

(*Chairman, Welsh Housing and Development Assoc.*).

H. AVRAY TIPPING, F.S.A.



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 23rd Oct 1920.

## CHRONICLE.

### R.I.B.A. Sessional Meetings, 1920-1921.

The following are the arrangements for the forthcoming Session, the meetings being held at 8 p.m., except where otherwise indicated:—

*Nov. 1.*—INAUGURAL MEETING: PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS, at 8.30 p.m.

*Nov. 15.*—General Meeting: THE LIBRARY OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS. By Rudolf Dircks, Librarian R.I.B.A.

*Nov. 29.*—Business Meeting: Election of Members.

*Dec. 13.*—General Meeting: SARACENIC ARCHITECTURE IN EGYPT AND PALESTINE. By M. S. Briggs [F.].

*Jan. 3, 1921.*—Business Meeting: Election of Members.

*Jan. 17.*—General Meeting: THE RESTORATION OF PRAENESTE. By H. Chalton Bradshaw [A.]. AWARD OF PRIZES AND STUDENTSHIPS.

*Jan. 31.*—PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO STUDENTS, at 8.30, followed by the PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

*Feb. 14.*—General Meeting: THE CUNARD BUILDING. By W. E. Willink [F.].

*Feb. 28.*—Special and Business Meetings: Election of Royal Gold Medallist: Election of Members.

*Mar. 14.*—General Meeting: COTTAGE HOSPITALS. By H. Percy Adams [F.].

*April 4.*—General Meeting: THE LAND SETTLEMENT BUILDING WORK OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES. By Sir Lawrence Weaver, K.B.E., F.S.A. [Hon. A.].

*April 18.*—General Meeting: THE UTILITY OF RESEARCH INTO BUILDING MATERIALS. By Alan E. Munby, M.A. Cantab. [F.].

*May 2.*—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

*May 23.*—General Meeting: Sessional Paper (Subject to be announced).

*June 6.*—Business Meeting: Election of Council and Standing Committees: Election of Members.

*June 20.*—PRESENTATION OF THE ROYAL GOLD MEDAL, at 8.30.

### Exhibition of Civic Survey Diagrams.

At the R.I.B.A. Galleries on 2nd November there will be opened an extremely interesting Exhibition of Civic Survey Diagrams. The scheme for this work originated in the early part of the war in order to find employment for many architects whose work had entirely ceased in consequence of the stoppage of building on the outbreak of hostilities.

The Exhibition should be of importance to all who are interested in improving the amenities of our towns and cities, as it is the first occasion in this country on which such a scheme has been attempted. Broadly,

the idea behind the undertaking is to give, in diagrammatic form, the basis or ground work for development in town planning. Data covering the whole ground of a city's activities are recorded—the methods of governance, the manufacturing and residential conditions, the places for work and recreation, the incidence of health and disease, the birth and death rates, traffic facilities, the climatic conditions, etc. Part of this information is published in the records of municipal corporations and authorities, which are not very accessible and not always clear in their statistical presentation. A good deal of the information conveyed by the diagrams is, however, the result of independent investigation by the Civic Survey. Town planning schemes in the past have often been elaborated without any clear realisation of the sociological and material conditions governing the site, or, what is of equal importance, its environment. In the diagrammatic form elaborated by the Civic Surveys these conditions are made comprehensible at a glance. The areas dealt with comprise Greater London, districts in South Lancashire, and Leeds. The London Society's "Development Plan of Greater London of the Future" will also be included in the exhibits.

Special conferences will be held during the exhibition upon such matters as London Traffic, London Housing, Public Health (Preventive and Curative), Business Aspects of the Civic Survey, Civic Survey from the Woman's point of view, Geology and the Civic Survey, the History and Archaeology of London, etc.

During the progress of the work the Civic Surveys created a good deal of interest, and have been visited by H.M. the Queen, H.R.H. Princess Mary, Sir George H. Murray, Mr. J. Herbert Lewis, Mr. John Burns, and many other distinguished persons. Mr. John Burns is particularly interested in the work, and considers it an invaluable contribution to municipal records.

It is hoped that the exhibition will be well attended and that county and municipal authorities will see the advantage of adopting the methods which it so admirably outlines.

#### Architectural Competitions.

The following Memorandum has been drawn up for circulation throughout the country, its purpose being to inform promoters of competitions of the course they must adopt if they wish to secure without delay the co-operation of those who are best qualified to provide designs for the buildings they have in view:—

Public bodies and others have of late years frequently had recourse to competitions amongst architects where buildings of a public or otherwise important nature are needed. It is assumed that the motive prompting bodies who promote such competitions is that they are desirous of getting the best design possible for their project. Architects taking part in such competitions are naturally desirous of producing the

best possible designs. It will, therefore, be readily seen that the interests are identical.

It not infrequently happens, however, that conditions issued in connection with such competitions are faulty and offer no inducement to architects to compete. When such conditions are brought to the notice of the Royal Institute of British Architects or the Society of Architects, the authorities concerned are at once communicated with and the defective or unsatisfactory clauses in their conditions pointed out. In many cases the authorities concerned (who it has been found have usually drawn up their conditions in ignorance of the Regulations published by the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects) are willing to revise their conditions so as to render them satisfactory. In other cases, however, no such desirable results have been arrived at and, in consequence, many competitions have of necessity been banned. When this has occurred sometimes no designs have been submitted and often only a very few designs from architects of little or no standing in the profession.

If the regulations governing such competitions were adopted by all bodies promoting them much vexatious delay would be avoided and the banning of competitions would be at once rendered unnecessary. Promoters who are considering a public competition in its earliest stages should at once appoint an experienced professional assessor to advise them. He will draw up the conditions regulating the competition, incorporating in such conditions all the essentials needed by the promoters, and he will at the same time be fully conversant with the regulations issued governing architectural competitions, to which he will closely adhere. His advice will also be invaluable to the promoters in arriving at the technical answers to questions, in deciding what is a reasonable cost for the buildings, and finally in judging the best design and the practicability of its being erected for the cost stipulated. Further, the fact of a good assessor having been appointed has a strong moral effect upon those of his fellow architects who are contemplating the preparation of a design. They would naturally prefer their design to be judged by one who is expert in the subject rather than by a committee of laymen who cannot hope to possess the necessary qualifications in this respect. If the promoters so desire, the President of the R.I.B.A. or the Society of Architects will be pleased to advise them in the nomination of an assessor.

The Royal Institute and the Society of Architects again point out that they have no desire to place a ban upon competition. It cannot, however, be too clearly stated that unless public competitions are promoted in such a manner as will ensure a satisfactory decision and the conditions are in accordance with the regulations issued by these bodies, delays and disappointment will inevitably follow.

[The document is signed by Messrs. H. V. Lanchester [F.], W. G. Wilson [F.], and Herbert A. Welch [A.], respectively Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the R.I.B.A. Competitions Committee, and by Mr. McArthur Butler, Secretary of the Society of Architects.]

## Our War Memorials and their Makers.

The following letter has been addressed from the Institute of Scottish Architects to the Editors of the principal newspapers in Scotland:—

SIR,—Almost daily the Press reports the unveiling of one or more of the memorials which every parish, village, church and school is erecting with pious zeal to its dead in the Great War.

Are these monuments proving worthy of the occasion which has evoked them? Not, it must be admitted, in every case. Yet of a very considerable majority it may be said that they show on the part of the community, with, at times, the valuable direction of the Advisory Committee promoted by the Royal Scottish Academy, the avoidance of the commonplace or the stock article, and the demand, within the limits imposed, for what is fitting and good in design and execution. And this demand our craftsmen have, in general, shown their capacity to fulfil with credit to themselves and the country. So, for the last year and more, many of our ablest architects, sculptors and art workers in the various crafts have been giving of their best, with remuneration in most cases altogether incommensurate with the labour involved. Hampered by scarcity of materials and labour, with resultant abnormal costs, yet inspired with the desire to give articulate expression to the prevailing sentiment, which, sharing with their fellows, it is their responsible task to put in enduring shape, they have spent in the aggregate an incalculable amount of thought and skill on the works now, for the first time, exposed to view.

Their labour accomplished, what consideration is devoted to this aspect of the question in the Press reports? In general, none. The speech of the local dignitary who has performed the ceremony of unveiling, more or less condensed according to his social position, the baldest description of the memorial—"an ionic (*sic*) column," "a brass tablet"—and the number of the names inscribed sum up the contents of the paragraph.

I venture to submit that this neglect of what, for the nation, is in many respects the most important aspect of the situation, is deplorable, as indicating the apathy of the Press to the arts other than that of the subject picture. Surely the recognition which the designers and executants are entitled to in view of their important work calls at the least for the mention of their names (as to which any reporter can inform himself), with the addition, in the case of public memorials, of an informed appreciation of these from the point of view of fitness and design. Such recognition also would result in a widely increased circle of readers, seeing that the information at present vouchsafed concerns only the comparatively small number connected with the locality in question, while the wider aspect is of interest to all art workers and art lovers throughout the country.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

ALEXANDER N. PATERSON [F.]

Edinburgh. *President, Institute of Scottish Architects.*

## Rheims Cathedral Restoration Fund.

The following is communicated by the Rev G. H. WEST, D.D. [*Hon. A.*], author of *Gothic Architecture in England and France*, a former pupil of E. E. Viollet-le-Duc, and for many years an Associate of the Institute:

On 6th July 1918 a letter from the Duke of Portland appeared in the papers on behalf of a scheme, which originated in Denmark, to raise contributions to a world-wide Fund towards the restoration of Rheims Cathedral as a memorial to all the Allied soldiers who were killed in the war, and also as a mark of the profound sympathy felt by people of all classes and creeds with the sorely tried French nation. The movement has been warmly taken up and a very influential Committee appointed under whose auspices a public meeting is to be held in the Mansion House on 3rd November, at which the Lord Mayor has kindly consented to take the Chair.

The issue of the appeal was rightly discontinued whilst that for Westminster Abbey was being made, but a great amount of spade-work was got through meanwhile by the Executive Committee, so that a very wide propaganda is assured. This note is not intended so much to ask for the support of the architectural profession as a whole—the object in itself must do that—as to reassure them about the meaning of "restoration" in this case, for it is a word justly dreaded by all lovers of architectural art. But to allow Rheims Cathedral to become the victim of careless ruin would be a crime against religion, the very soul of the French nation, and the highest spiritual expression of art.

The choir, transepts and north side have been grievously damaged, four bays of the vaulting, six arches, several flying buttresses, sixty statues and all the glass have been destroyed, but all the columns of the nave and chevet with their capitals are more or less intact. The building is structurally restorable. Artistically, there will be no attempt at "restoration." the old stones will be respected, and superficial disfigurements will remain as perennial reminders of barbarian violence. Whatever is done will be done in accordance with the principles of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments and of the Society of Antiquaries, and with the approval of the Société Française d'Archéologie and the Société des Amis de la Cathédrale de Reims. The latter Society is working at present only for the refurnishing of the Cathedral and its gradual restoration to public worship, and for the establishment of a "Musée Lapidaire." There will therefore be no clashing between the aims and methods of the French and English societies, but they will be able to join hands in an "entente cordiale" for the attainment of their common object.

Information relating to the movement may be obtained from Mrs. Aubrey le Blond, Hon. Secretary, Restoration of Rheims Cathedral British Empire Fund, 30 Regent Street, S.W. 1.

### Building Trade : Payment for "Wet" Time.

The following communication has been issued by the Ministry of Health :—

Negotiations have been proceeding for some months between the Government and representatives of the employers and operatives in the building trade with a view to ensuring an immediate and constant supply of skilled labour for housing schemes, and it will be remembered that a complete scheme with this object was submitted to the building trade by the Government. The main elements of this scheme were : (1) An increase in the number of skilled men in the trade by the grading up of unskilled men, the training of ex-Service men, and the resumption of apprenticeship extended to older men ; (2) a system of payment by results ; and (3) a guarantee against loss of wages for time lost on housing schemes through stress of weather.

For various reasons, the Building Resettlement Committee of the Joint Industrial Council of the Building Trade, with which the Government conducted negotiations, was unable to accept this scheme as it stood, but submitted alternative proposals which it was prepared to put before the trade unions. These alternative proposals were accepted by the Government on the understanding, which was fully recognised by the Resettlement Committee, that if they failed to attain their object the whole question should be further considered. The proposals are to be forthwith submitted to the trade unions concerned for their consideration.

Essentially, the proposals of the Resettlement Committee consisted of the resumption of ordinary apprenticeship in the building trade, the introduction of an adult apprenticeship system on agreed lines, proposals for action to encourage labour to concentrate on housing schemes and the adoption of a scheme, to be arranged in detail between employers and operatives, for providing security against loss of wages by stress of weather. Difficulties arose as to the basis of a scheme for providing security against loss of wages, and the Resettlement Committee preferred that it itself should frame a scheme of payment for wet time which could be brought into operation at once upon housing schemes, pending the settlement of a general scheme which would be applicable to the industry as a whole. After much discussion, however, the representatives of the employers and operatives upon the Committee failed to agree upon the basis of such an arrangement. The Minister of Health decided, therefore, to call the Resettlement Committee together, and endeavour to secure an agreement. A meeting with this object was held under the chairmanship of Dr. Addison at the Ministry of Health, on Wednesday last week. The representatives of the employers were prepared to adopt a scheme under which payment should be made at full rates for 50 per cent. of all time lost through stress of weather ; the operatives, on the other hand, pressed that the figure of 75 per cent. should be adopted instead of 50 per cent. Although, in exceptional cases, loss to the operatives from bad weather conditions may amount to a large proportion of the week's wages, the average time lost throughout the year is comparatively small, and the difference between the effect of the two proposals cannot be regarded as very considerable. It was accordingly hoped that the two sides would have been able to find a formula which would have been acceptable to both. After prolonged negotiation, however, the two parties again failed to agree.

In view of the deadlock which had been reached, Dr. Addison announced that he would be prepared, in the case of any of the building trades which undertook to accept and work the whole scheme originally put forward by the Re-

settlement Committee, to bring into operation on housing schemes the following proposal : In the case of a man employed or standing by to work on a job when called upon for a full week, the payment for lost time shall be 50 per cent. in respect of time lost through stress of weather up to 22 hours per week ; in the case of time lost more than 22 hours, the hours lost over and above 22 hours shall be paid for at the rate of 75 per cent. of the time rate. The effect of this proposal will be that, if a man loses 22 hours of his 44-hour week, he will receive 75 per cent. of a full week's wages ; the cases in which a man loses more than half a week will be few, but when the whole week is lost the man who stands by on the job will be ensured a payment of 62½ per cent. of his full week's wages.

The representatives of the operatives on the Resettlement Committee, after prolonged discussion, agreed to accept Dr. Addison's suggestion for favourable recommendation to their members, together with the other general proposals of the Resettlement Committee. The representatives of the employers, while holding that the suggestion went further than they could go, were understood to be prepared to acquiesce in its application to housing schemes in conjunction with the other general proposals of the Resettlement Committee.

### Building Restrictions : L.C.C. Prohibition Orders

The Special (Building Control) Committee of the London County Council reported at the Council Meeting on the 19th inst. that during the three months ended 30th September last notices of intention to prohibit works were given in 21 cases, and in 16 cases, after hearing representations and objections by persons concerned, the committee issued orders prohibiting the construction of works or buildings, on the ground that the provision of dwelling accommodation for the area of the Council was or was likely to be delayed by a deficiency of labour or materials caused by their employment elsewhere, and that the buildings were of less public importance for the time being than the provision of dwelling accommodation. In three cases no order was issued, as arrangements were made for the work to be undertaken in such a manner as to avoid the use of labour and materials required for housing works. One order was made extending an existing order for a further period of six months.

In 138 cases the committee decided to offer no objection to the work being proceeded with, as the buildings did not fall within the low category as defined in Housing Memorandum No. 22 issued by the Ministry of Health, and the proposed method of construction was of such a character or the work of so small a value as not to be likely to interfere with housing operations.

In 128 other cases the committee have secured undertakings for the elimination of brickwork either entirely or the restriction of its use in certain special cases in which a limited amount of brickwork was deemed to be essential.

The committee further report that thirteen appeals against decisions of the Council under sections 5 and 6 of the Act have been heard. In nine cases of prohibition of buildings the action of the Council was



upheld by the Appeal Tribunal, in view of special circumstances which included modification of materials to be used and the stage to which work had been advanced; appeals in respect of the prohibition of buildings were allowed in three cases, and one appeal was allowed in respect of the demolition of dwelling accommodation.

#### Luxury Building : Prime Minister's Pronouncement.

At the interview of the London Mayors with the Prime Minister last Monday, Mr. Carmichael, Secretary of the London Trades Council, raised the question of taking men off luxury building. "You may take it from me," said Mr. Lloyd George, "that we are not going to allow it. We are going to employ ex-Service men on building, and if the building trades object to it they must take their chance." Some Labour members protested that there were other obstacles, notably the shortage of cement and timber, and congestion at the docks, but Mr. Lloyd George adhered to his statement, and said that the other matters would be fully inquired into.

#### London University Buildings.

The Senate of London University, at their meeting on the 20th inst., passed the following resolution:—

That his Majesty's Government be informed that the Senate are prepared to accept the offer made in Mr. Fisher's letter of 7th April, 1920,\* to the Chancellor of the site therein described, *gratis* and in perpetuity, on the terms as regards the maintenance, rates, etc., of the University headquarters buildings laid down in the Treasury Minutes of 16th February and 13th July, 1899, and in Mr. Fisher's letters of 26th June, 24th September, and 6th October, 1920, to the Vice-Chancellor, provided:—

(1) That such grant for maintenance, rates, etc., shall not be counted as a portion of the grants made to universities for educational purposes;

(2) That the allocation of the site between the various buildings to be erected thereon shall be at the sole discretion of the Senate of the University;

(3) That the University shall retain and King's College shall retain full possession of their present sites and buildings under the conditions under which they now hold them until such time as the new buildings are ready for occupation and are free from debt;

(4) That the buildings to be erected for the University headquarters shall be, as regards dimensions and design, in accordance with plans to be agreed upon between the Senate and his Majesty's Treasury, and shall afford not less than 50 per cent. more floor space than is now allocated in the buildings at South Kensington for the separate use of the University;

(5) That the terms of the removal of King's College from the Strand to the Bloomsbury site shall be a matter of subsequent negotiation between his Majesty's Government, the Council of King's College, and the Senate of the University, and that an agreement shall be concluded between the said parties;

and that the Senate, in accepting, subject to the above conditions, the Government's offer of a site in Bloomsbury, assume that the offer does not incidentally involve a policy of curtailing the development of the work of those colleges and schools of the University which are not now, nor in the future will be, situated in the neighbourhood of the Bloomsbury site, and that these institutions will not receive less favourable consideration at the hands of the Government than would otherwise have been the case.

The Report of the Education Committee of the London County Council, which was before the Council at their meeting last Tuesday, quoting the Higher Education Sub-Committee's report, states that it appears from the letter of the President of the Board of Education dated 6th October that the Government is now, in effect, prepared to consider the making, through the University Grants Committee, and in response to contributions from local or municipal sources, of a building grant towards the cost of the new University headquarters in Bloomsbury. The University, in accepting the offer of the Government, would give up inadequate accommodation, occupying two sites of approximately two acres each, and would receive instead a site of 11½ acres together with a sum representing the fair value of the King's College building, and would also have a clear expectation of receiving, through the University Grants Committee, assistance towards the erection of the necessary buildings on the new site, provided that adequate contributions are secured from municipal and private sources.

The Education Committee made the following recommendation:—"That, subject to satisfactory arrangements being made between the Government and the Council of King's College for the reinstatement of King's College on the proposed Bloomsbury site, and in the event of the University of London accepting the site in Bloomsbury referred to in Mr. H. A. L. Fisher's letter dated 7th April, 1920,\* and provided that adequate grants are made by the Government for the erection of administrative buildings on the new site, the Council is prepared to consider an application for a building grant for this purpose subject to the condition that the Council's contribution shall not exceed one-third of the contribution made by the Government in respect of expenditure not exceeding £1,000,000,"

#### University Buildings : Concentration not Essential.

Professor Sir E. Ray Lankester, joining in the discussion which has been going on in *The Times* as to the most desirable site on which to house the University of London, considers that it is of vital importance that the public and the graduates of the University should be informed with clearness and sufficient detail what part or parts of the functions of a university are to be served by the new buildings. Many, he says, will agree that the University should have a dignified building on such a central site as that of Bloomsbury, to contain a great hall of assembly, committee rooms for administrative purposes, and one, or perhaps two, lecture theatres of moderate size, for occasional use. "On the other hand," argues the Professor, "it is surely not desirable to associate with these either libraries, museums, laboratories, or class-rooms. These may well be placed in comparatively remote, yet readily accessible, situations where light and air are good. They are at present scattered in various institutions in London and, though forming parts of the University, are not, and should not be, squeezed together on one small central smoky site. The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge are happily, at present, free

\* JOURNAL R.I.B.A. 29th May, p. 359.



from any such concentration. In them university buildings are scattered widely and have space to develop. There is a persistent false suggestion about the word 'university' which engenders a popular notion that it must teach everything, and must aim at doing so in some wonderful 'universally provided' central establishment. Really the 'university' is merely a corporation, and can carry out its trust and do its work best by comparatively isolated, well-placed 'institutes,' each adapted for some special line of teaching and research and capable of expansion without enormous cost for site. The modern facilities of motor-omnibus and tube railways render Hampstead and Wimbledon as convenient for teacher and pupil as were Lambeth and Bloomsbury in earlier days."

#### Exhibition of Architectural Drawings, Norwich.

Messrs. Edward T. Boardman [F.] and Stanley J. Wearing [A.] contribute the following notice of the above exhibition:—

The Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union are to be congratulated on organising this Exhibition, which enables Assistants living in the Provinces to study the actual drawings of good work, and also helps to interest the Public in the Art. The Exhibition is being held at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, in connection with the Norwich Housing and Home Life Economy Exhibition. The drawings represent the efforts of some of the foremost draughtsmen in the country, and many were prepared for Students' competitions.

The exhibits fall into several well-defined divisions:

*I. Measured Drawings.*—The measured drawings show excellent choice of subject and all are well drawn. We would, however, mention those by Mr. J. Grieve [A.], depicting the South Porch of St. Mary's, Beverley, drawn with a clear and firm line, the jointing of stonework being carefully indicated. Also the drawings of St. George's Hall, Liverpool, by Mr. F. O. Lawrence, B.Arch. (Liverpool), [A.], this year's Prix de Rome winner: the draughtsmanship and method of portrayal here are of a very high order.

*II. Sketches.*—We should like to have seen a larger exhibit under this heading to inspire a very instructive and enjoyable part of our studies, which should be the recreative side of the profession. There are some charming little sketches by Mr. Harvey, B.A., and etchings by Mr. C. Newman are worthy of note. Two panels of mounted sketches by Mr. Hoffer, some in pencil and some in colour, show draughtsmanship of rare excellence and deserve careful scrutiny.

*III. Architectural Designs.*—These form an excellent show and will repay the student's closest study. The Opera House, by Mr. Hamlyn (winner of the British Institution Scholarship in Architecture of £100 in 1913), is boldly conceived and does not suffer by the restraint of the fixed sum which we are so often up against in our daily practice. The design submitted for the R.A. Gold Medal for a Town Hall, by Mr. R. J. Thomson, shows an ambitious plan and a delicately drawn half-inch detail so well associated with work from this school. Amongst other good sheets some by

Mr. McLachlan [A.], Honorary Secretary to the Association, are shown. There are many other drawings all serving to demonstrate the quality and scope of the work which is being done in the great Architectural Schools of the country. Students would do well to notice the design for Almshouses by Mr. Harvey, the planning being arranged on a confined site round the grass court. The stippling employed as a finish to the drawing seems to be growing in favour among architectural draughtsmen to-day, as the exhibits at the Royal Academy bear evidence.

Amongst such a well-selected collection of drawings there is much to be learnt under the various headings mentioned. The exhibition affords an opportunity which students would be well advised to take advantage for a careful and detailed study of the methods adopted by the draughtsmen in obtaining the effects produced.

#### Revival of the Village Sign.

The exhibition of Village Signs and Emblems held during the past week at Australia House, under the auspices of the *Daily Mail*, was one of exceeding interest, presenting a gay and varied spectacle of village chronicles, expressed in heraldry, legend, historical allusion, and wit and humour. The exhibition was the outcome of a remark made by the Duke of York in the course of his speech at the opening of this year's Royal Academy, that "the revival of the village sign or emblem, lettered and conspicuously displayed, would be a welcome guide to the visitor in a strange land. The name of many a village would offer scope for the wit and humour of the artist. In the neighbourhood of Sandringham these village signs have been introduced with considerable success." The *Daily Mail* at once took up the suggestion and launched a competition, offering ten prizes, ranging from £1,000 down to £50—£2,200 altogether—for the best designs for village signs on the lines indicated by the Duke of York. Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., and Mr. Frank Brangwyn, R.A., consented to act as assessors. The response has been exceedingly gratifying to the promoters. In all, 617 designs were submitted, and the assessors in their award express their admiration for the great amount of beautiful work submitted, showing much care, thought, and invention, combined with excellent colour and draughtsmanship. The assessors state that the high standard of excellence attained by many of the competitors had made it very difficult for them to appraise the order of merit of some of the designs. The Duke of York, presiding at the opening of the exhibition held at Australia House, when 220 of the designs were shown, said that all who examined the designs must agree that they were most beautiful and useful. Here could be seen history artistically expressed and tradition pictorially displayed. These attributes alone would justify the placing of these signs in the districts to which they related. But, in addition, the practical benefit would be claimed of enabling the traveller to know the name of the village through which he was passing. His Royal Highness stated that several far-seeing and public-spirited local authorities had agreed to provide a site for the prize-winning designs. He suggested that the other local authorities concerned, the legitimate guardians of historical records, might also consent to the erection of the numerous signs in the exhibition which, though not gaining prize awards, yet displayed great ingenuity, beauty and merit.

The winner of the £1,000 prize was Mr. Percy G. Matthews, of 27 Norlington Road, Leytonstone, for his sign for St. Peter's in Thanet; 2nd prize (£500), Mr. Geoffrey Webb, East Grinstead, for a sign for Mayfield; 3rd (£200), Miss Dorothy Hutton, 181 King's Road, Chelsea, for a sign for Battle, where was fought the Battle of Hastings; 4th (£100), Mr. Eustace P. E. Nash, Winton, Bournemouth, for a sign for Christchurch. There were six additional prizes of £50 each. It was laid down that designs submitted in the competition must be for work that could be carried out at a cost not exceeding £250: the estimated cost of the erection of the premiated signs was well within that figure. Mr. Matthews's sign for the village of St. Peter's in Thanet shows St. Peter holding two golden keys and standing on the Isle of Thanet. Boldness and simplicity are its characteristic note, and it is eminently suitable for the purpose for which it was designed. The artist has provided that the sign itself shall be supported on a teak post furnished at the base with seats of the same material. Every competitor seems to have thrown off convention and given happy ideas free rein. Swaffham is represented by "Ye Tinker of Swaffham who did by a dream find a great treasure." Biddenden's sign shows the Biddenden twins, Elisa and Mary. The Widecombe sign displays Tom Pearce's grey mare with its wonderful load, including Bill Brewer, Jan Stewer, "Old Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all." A design both beautiful and bold in execution is that for Kirklees, which shows Robin Hood in the action of loosing the dreaded long bow.

#### Four New Roads for London.

It is understood that four new thoroughfares are to be planned in North-East London jointly by the Ministry of Transport and the L.C.C. The scheme, which is to be carried out without the demolition of any buildings, is to be paid for in equal shares by the two bodies, but the Ministry may advance funds to the L.C.C. if it is found necessary. The Ministry of Transport hope that considerable relief will be afforded to the general congestion of traffic in the north and east of London, and that a considerable area, which is now difficult of access by any of the arterial communications, may be opened up and "rediscovered."

Work is to begin at once, the final arrangements having been practically concluded. The new roads are the following:—

1. East Ham.—Beckton Road, Barking, Dagenham.
2. Hackney, Leyton, Wanstead, and Ilford.—The "Eastern Avenue."
3. Tottenham, Edmonton, Cheshunt.—"The New Cambridge Road."
4. Edmonton, Chingford, Walthamstow, via Lea Marshes.—"The North Circular Road."

#### M. Louis Bonnier [*Hon. Corr. M.*].

M. Louis Bonnier [*Hon. Corr. Member*], Inspecteur-Général des Services techniques d'Architecture et d'Esthétique, representing the Prefect of the Seine, will be the special guest of the London Society at a dinner to be held at the Waldorf Hotel on the 29th inst., the Earl of Crawford [*Hon. A.*] in the chair. During the evening, M. Bonnier will give a short account of the problem of the extension of London compared with that of Paris. Earlier in the day M. Bonnier will read a Paper on the Extension of Paris at a special meeting of the London Society to be held at the Lecture Hall, 18, John Street, Adelphi, when Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., will presided.

#### The President.

The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, who went to Cairo during the recess on a mission for the Egyptian Government in connection with the Quasr-el-Aini Hospital, has now returned, and will deliver the Inaugural Address of the new Session on Monday evening, 1st November.

### COMPETITIONS.

#### Lockerbie War Memorial Competition.

As a result of correspondence between the Competitions Committee of the R.I.B.A. and the promoters, the conditions of this Competition are now in order and there is no objection to Members and Licentiates taking part therein.

#### Gateshead War Memorial Competition.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above competition being unsatisfactory, they are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part therein.

### OBITUARY.

THOMAS WILLIAM ALDWINCKLE, who died on the 16th September, had been a Fellow of the Institute since 1887. He was articulated in 1858 for a term of four years to Mr. H. E. Cooper, of 7, South Square, Gray's Inn, and commenced practice in 1869, in the same year getting his first important commission, the Infirmary for the Parish of St. George-in-the-East, costing £20,000. Other early works were the Lambeth Workhouse (£100,000), Wandsworth and Clapham Union Workhouse (£90,000), Leathersellers' Company's Livery Hall (£30,000), Lewisham Public Baths (£25,000), school for the London School Board in 1872, and schools for provincial School Boards. Later works included the new Camberwell Workhouse; Wandsworth and Clapham Union Dispensary and Relief Station, Battersea; St. Pancras Baths and Wash-houses, Prince of Wales Road; Alterations, Kensington Workhouse. He did a large amount of work for the Metropolitan Asylums Board, including Brook Hospital, Shooters' Hill; the Fountain Hospital, Tooting, also a temporary hospital at Gore Farm, Dartford, Kent, for an epidemic of smallpox; enlargement of South-Eastern Hospital, Old Kent Road, and South-Western Hospital at Stockwell; and the Princess Mary's Hospital for Children at Margate. His last works were the enlargement of Tooting Bec Asylum, which had been suspended during the war, and the Chemical Works at Dartford for the Monazite Products, Ltd. He contributed to the Institute TRANSACTIONS a valuable Paper on Fever Hospitals, read before the Institute in February 1895 [JOURNAL, 28th

February 1895]. For the three years 1896, 1897, and 1898 he placed at the disposal of the Institute a Studentship of the value of £50 per annum for travel and sketching in Spain, to be awarded to the student who among all those submitting works for the Institute Prizes in any of the above years the Council should consider best qualified to carry out the donor's intentions. It is of interest to recall that the favoured students were Mr. H. S. East [A.] (1896), Mr. A. T. Griffith (1897) and Mr. J. B. Fulton [A.] (1898).

THOMAS WILSON ALDWINCKLE, son and partner of the above, pre-deceased his father by about six weeks. He was articled to his father in 1894, and was afterwards for two years a first-grade assistant in the Director of Works Department at the Admiralty. He joined his father in partnership in 1900, and was elected an Associate of the Institute in 1901.

Since the death of the principals, Mr. J. Barnett, who had assisted Messrs. Aldwinckle for two years, has been in charge of the work the firm had in hand.

The death is also announced of the following :—

MARTINSON, MATTHEW GEORGE, *Licentiate*.

PARKIN, ROBERT ARTHUR, *Licentiate*.

SUTHERLAND, GEORGE ANGUS, *Licentiate*.

DYER, CYRIL HAMILTON, *Licentiate*.

### CIRCULAR LETTER TO LICENTIATES.

#### Association of Licentiates.

DEAR SIR,—As no doubt you are aware, the above Association has been formed, with enthusiastic support from many quarters. The Executive Committee appeals to all Licentiates to join the Association, and to those in the provinces to form local committees to discuss the question of unification, and delegate one of their members to keep in touch with the Executive.

It will be seen that six districts, outside London, are represented on the Executive, and it is hoped that every centre in Great Britain will be able to form a local committee, so that by correspondence the Executive may be informed on all matters affecting the position of architects, and the advantages to be derived by unification of the profession, at the same time being informed with regard to the necessary safeguards to be taken to assure the proper protection of Licentiates, and others, who are not at present corporate members of the R.I.B.A.

It has been brought to the knowledge of the Executive Committee that there is a wide feeling that the question of unification has been taken up where it was dropped in 1914, and the Committee is anxious to assure members that this is not the case.

The Committee is convinced that at the present time there is a general belief in unification as a means to the advancement of architecture which will benefit the architect of the future, and that the old idea of "sheep and goats" has given way to an ideal which is wide enough to embrace all those who are devoted to the arts and crafts of architecture and building.

Licentiates have been invited by the Council of the R.I.B.A. to take their part in the organisation of the whole profession, and the Association has been formed that we may give of our best for the general benefit. To do this effectively it is necessary to obtain the views of some 1,750 Licentiates living in all parts of the country, and this is possible, through local committees in touch with the central Executive, if we have the full support of the whole Licentiate class.

The Committee prefer to "let the dead past bury its dead" and to take up the question of unification as it stands at present, and those who have followed the reports of the meetings held at the R.I.B.A. do not need to be reminded that the present Unification Committee is formed of representatives of Fellows, Associates and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A., the A.A., members of the Society of Architects, and of unattached architects, therefore the Committee is really representative of all architects, if each section is representative of those they are elected to serve.

The meeting held on September 17th endorsing the election of Licentiates' representatives, and approving the action taken between May and September, the forming of the Association and the enthusiastic support already given, make it abundantly clear that the Licentiate members of the Unification Committee do in fact truly represent the whole body of Licentiates, and the Executive Committee is now anxious to give them all the help in its power that they may well and truly serve on the Committee, and that their views may be received as the expression of opinion of a large body of experienced men, and not only those of a few individuals.

Licentiates are invited to join the Association (subscription 5s.) and communicate with the Secretary.

Reports will appear from time to time in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL and the Press.

J. E. YERBURY, *Chairman*

S. G. SHORT, *Hon. Sec.*

L. S. YOUNGMAN, *Assist. Hon. Sec.*

*Licentiates*  
*R.I.B.A.*

### SESSION 1920-21.

Opening Meeting, Monday, 1st Nov. 1920, at 8.30 p.m.

THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING (ORDINARY) of the Session 1920-21 will be held Monday, 1st November 1920, at 8.30 p.m., for the following purposes :—To read the Minutes of the General Meeting (Business) held Monday, 7th June; to announce the names of candidates for membership.

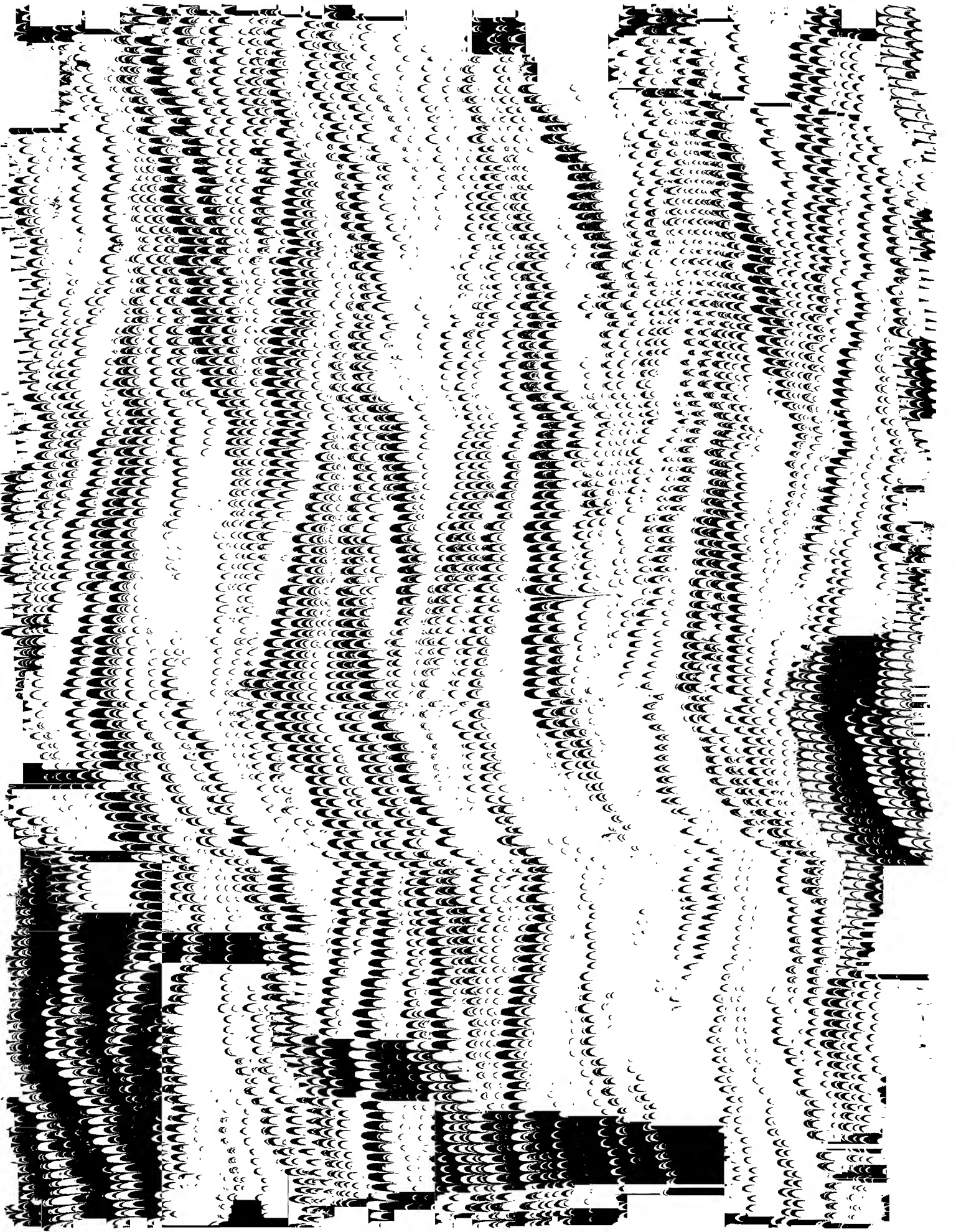
The President, Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, to deliver  
THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Partnership required by Others, Royal Engineers about to be demobilised. London or provinces. Prior to war had practice in Liverpool and Isle of Man.—Address Box 110, Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street.

Architect (Member R.I.B.A.) of exceptional experience and qualification is desirous of resuming practice and seeks partnership in an office with good prospects, or would consider position with a view to an early partnership.—Address Box 180, Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

ASSOCIATE (32) at present in Toronto is desirous of position as Assistant in London or Southern County office. Six years' London experience, four years' experience in store, factory and domestic work in best Canadian office.—Box 276, The Secretary, R.I.B.A.







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